

# PROGRESS CHAPTER

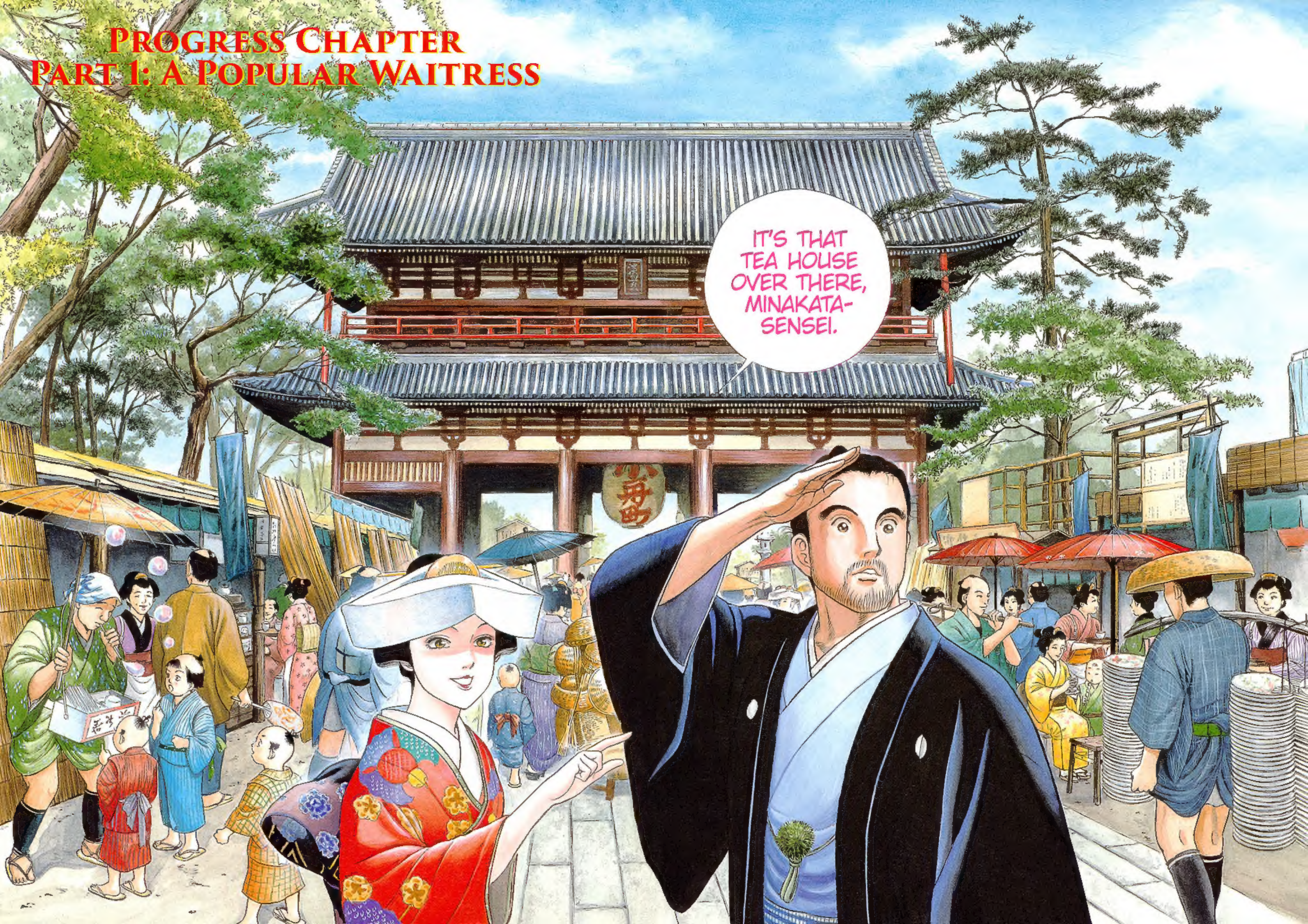
## PART 1: A POPULAR WAITRESS





# PROGRESS CHAPTER

## PART 1: A POPULAR WAITRESS



IT'S THAT  
TEA HOUSE  
OVER THERE,  
MINAKATA-  
SENSEI.



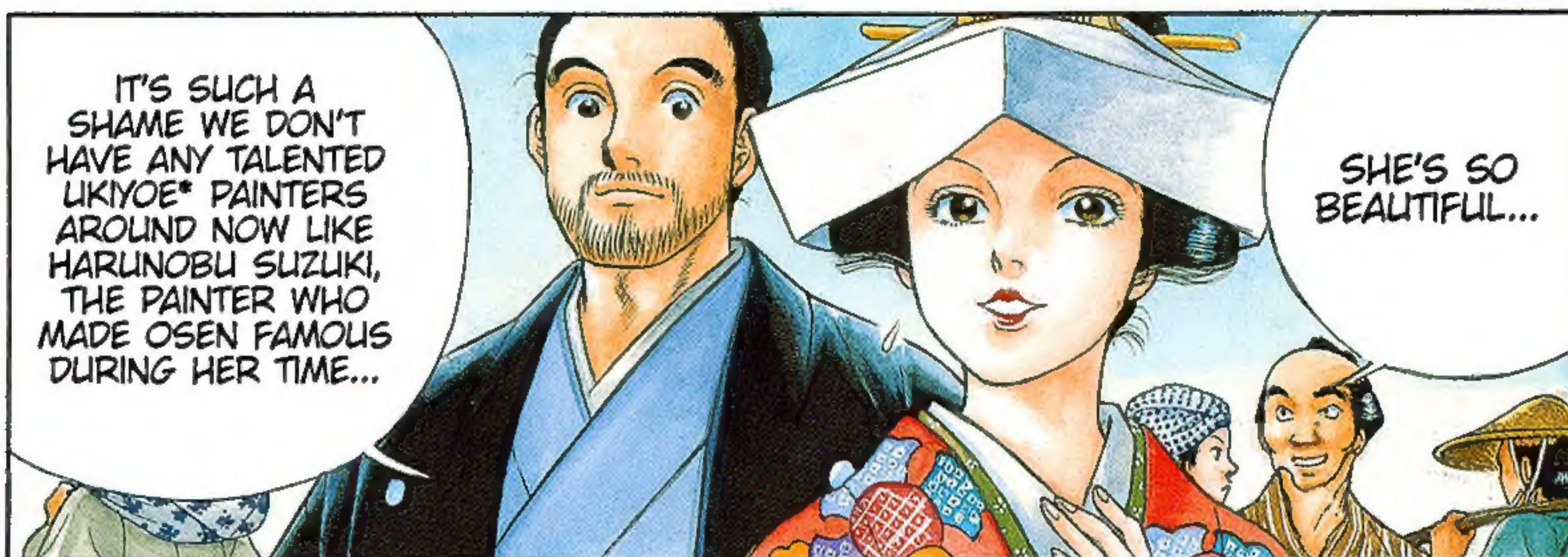


THAT LADY  
OVER THERE  
IS AKANE-SAN.  
SHE'S THE FACE  
OF THE SWEET  
DUMPLING TEA  
HOUSE.



PEOPLE SAY SHE'S  
THE REINCARNATION  
OF THE LEGENDARY  
OSEN KASAMORI.  
OSEN WAS THE FACE  
OF A TEA HOUSE AT  
THE KASAMORI SHRINE  
IN YANAKA AND WAS  
KNOWN AS THE MOST  
BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN  
EDO A CENTURY AGO  
DURING THE HOUREKI  
AND MEIWA ERA\*.

\*1751-1771

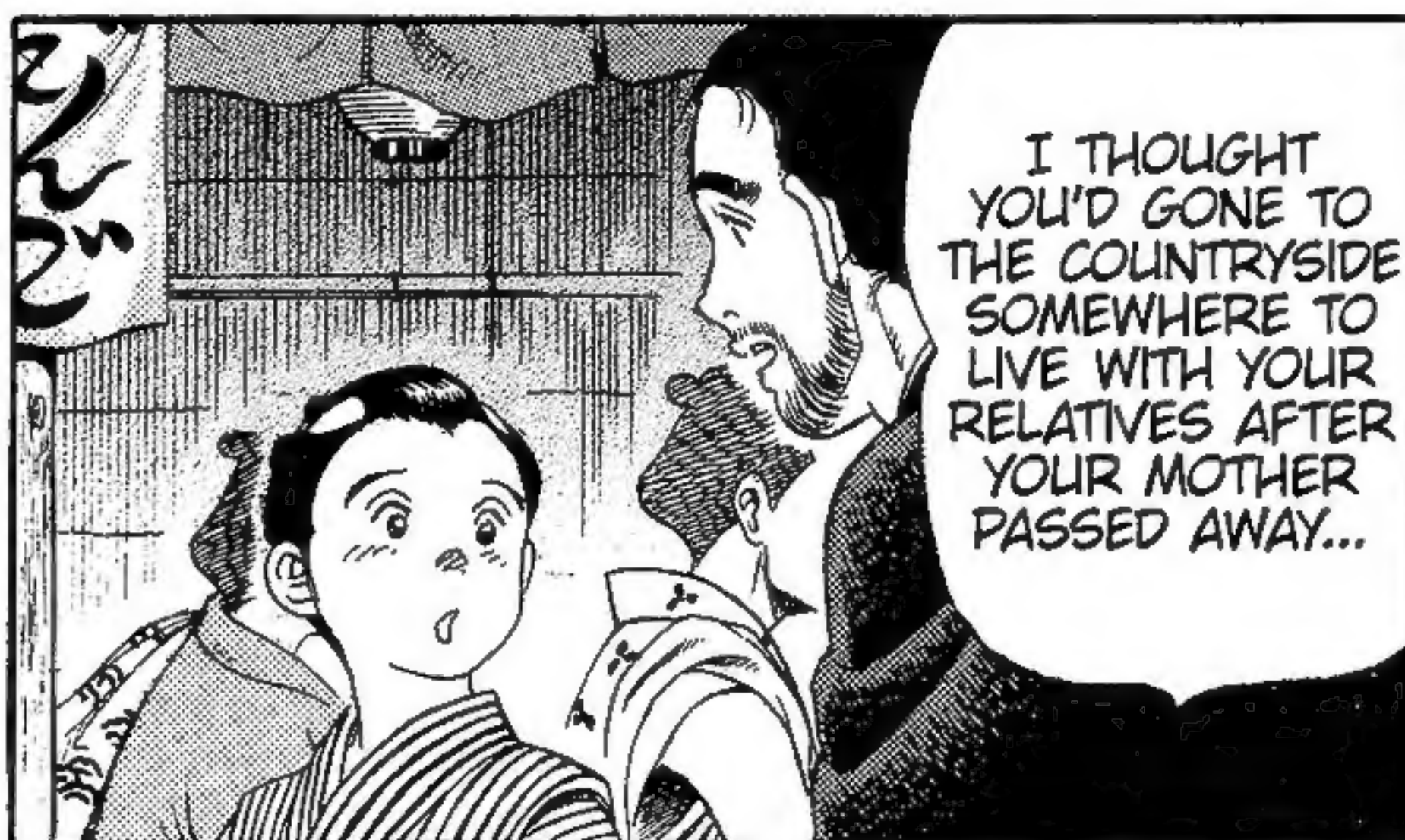


IT'S SUCH A  
SHAME WE DON'T  
HAVE ANY TALENTED  
UKIYOE\* PAINTERS  
AROUND NOW LIKE  
HARUNOBU SUZUKI,  
THE PAINTER WHO  
MADE OSEN FAMOUS  
DURING HER TIME...

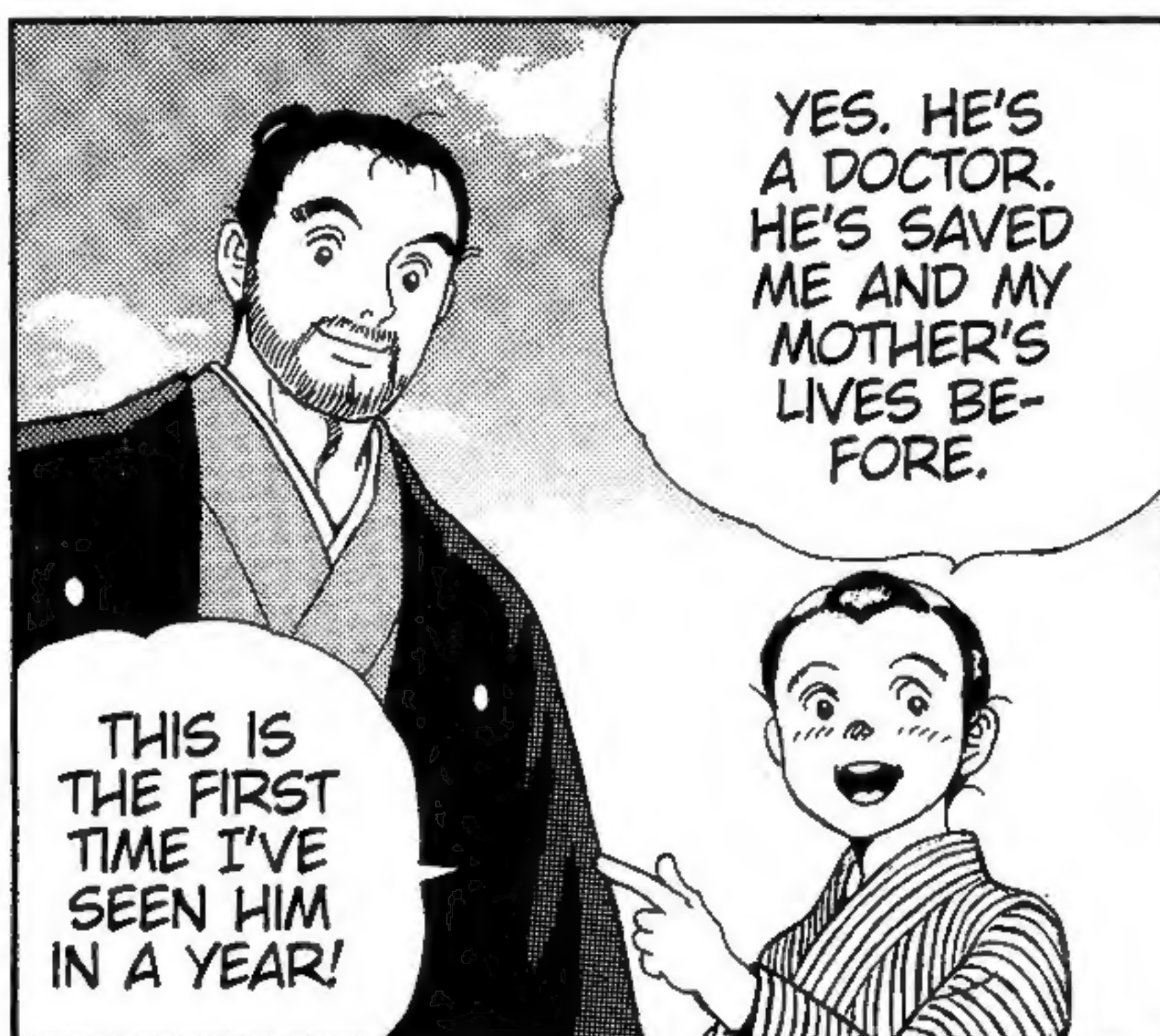
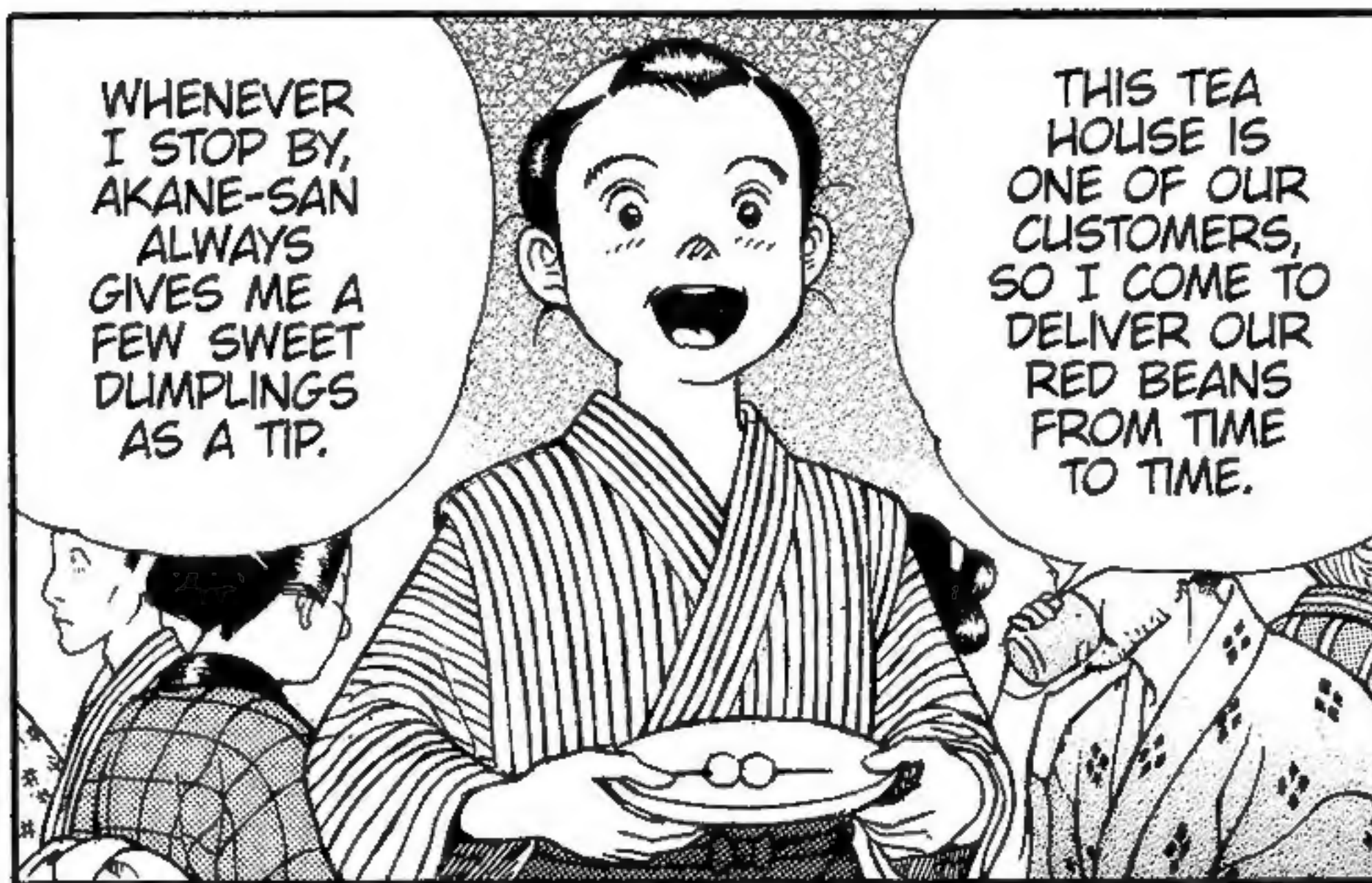
SHE'S SO  
BEAUTIFUL...

\*A SCHOOL OF JAPANESE ART DEPICTING SUBJECTS FROM EVERYDAY LIFE  
DOMINANT IN THE 17TH-19TH CENTURIES.

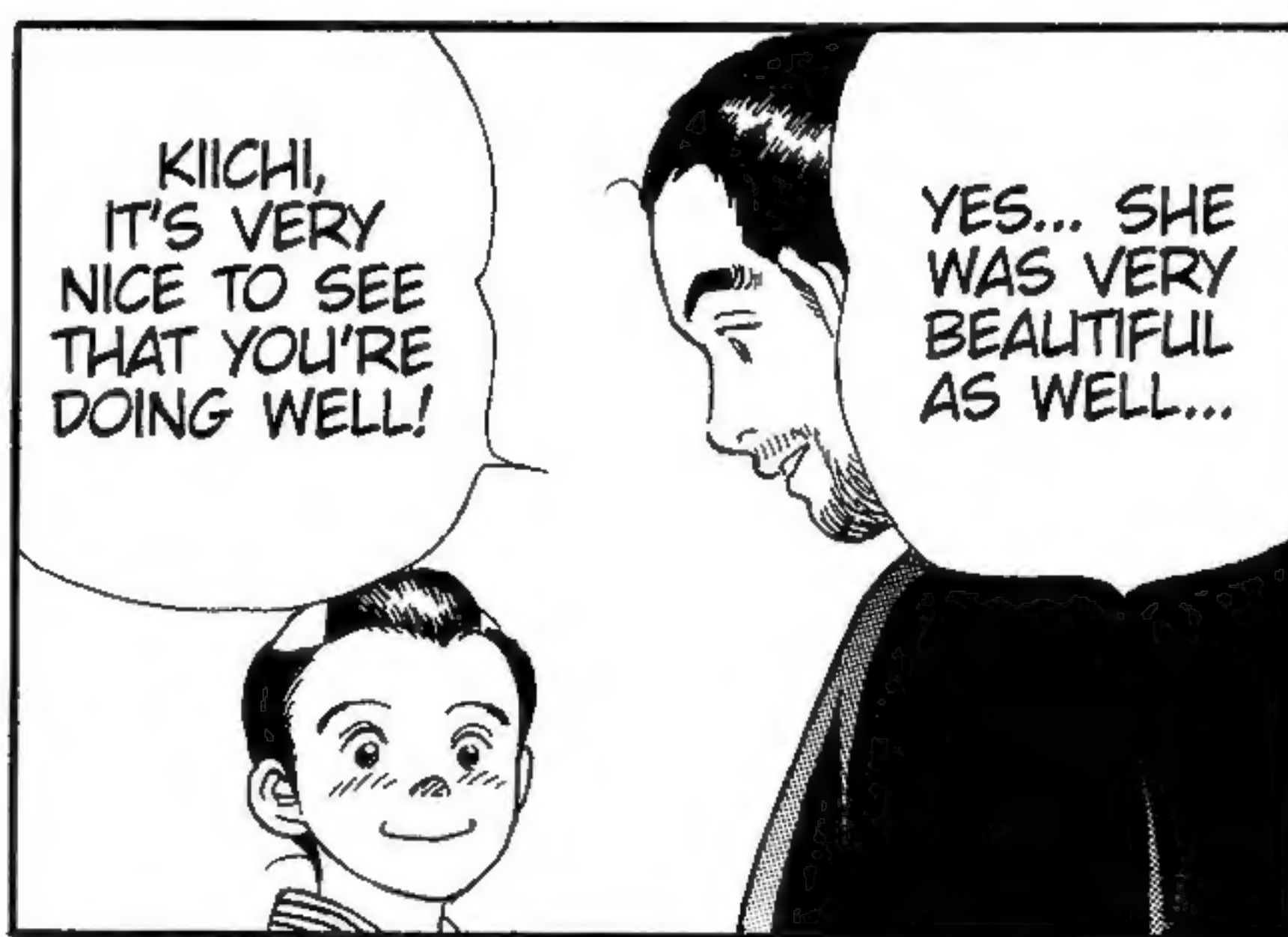




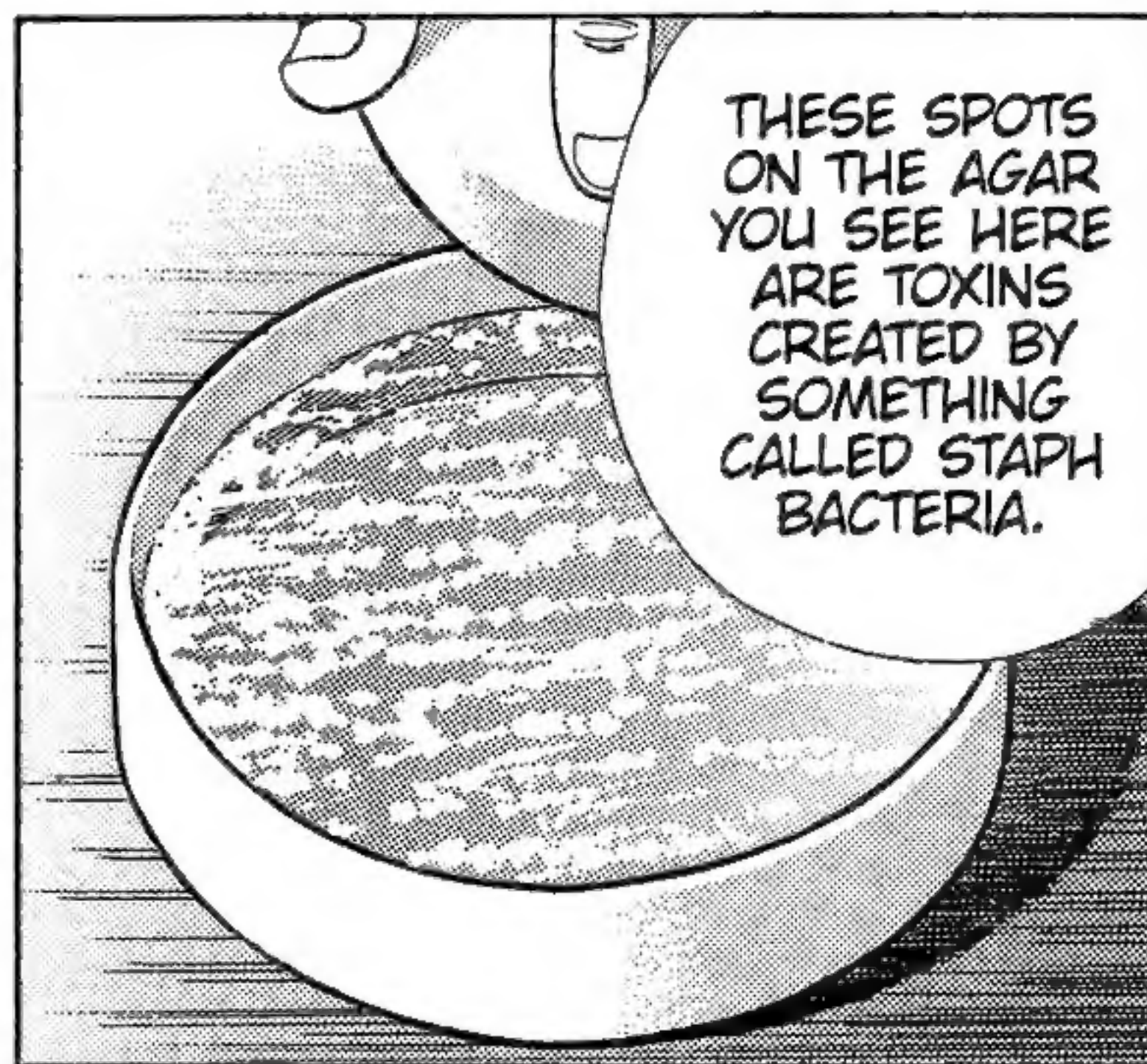
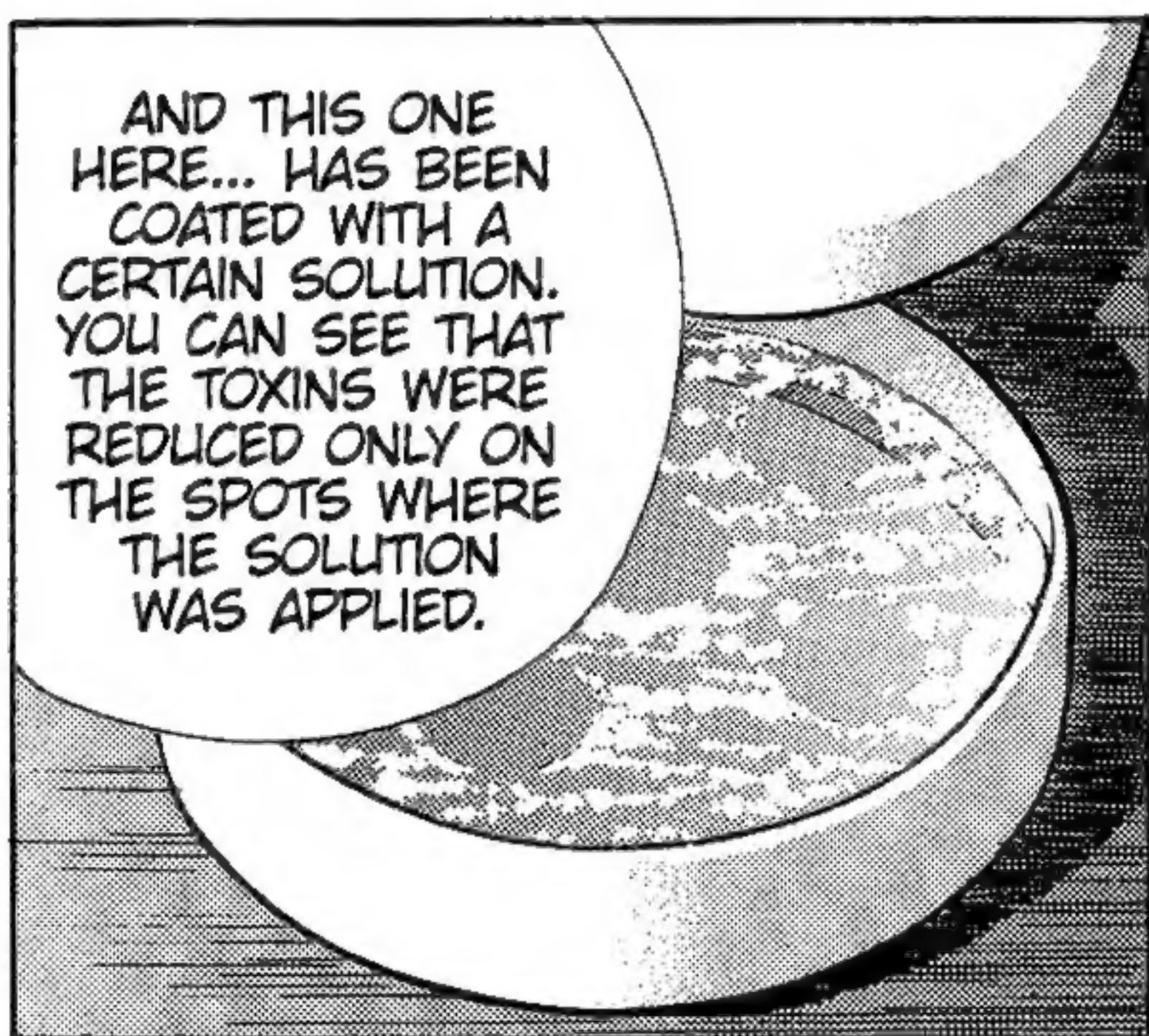




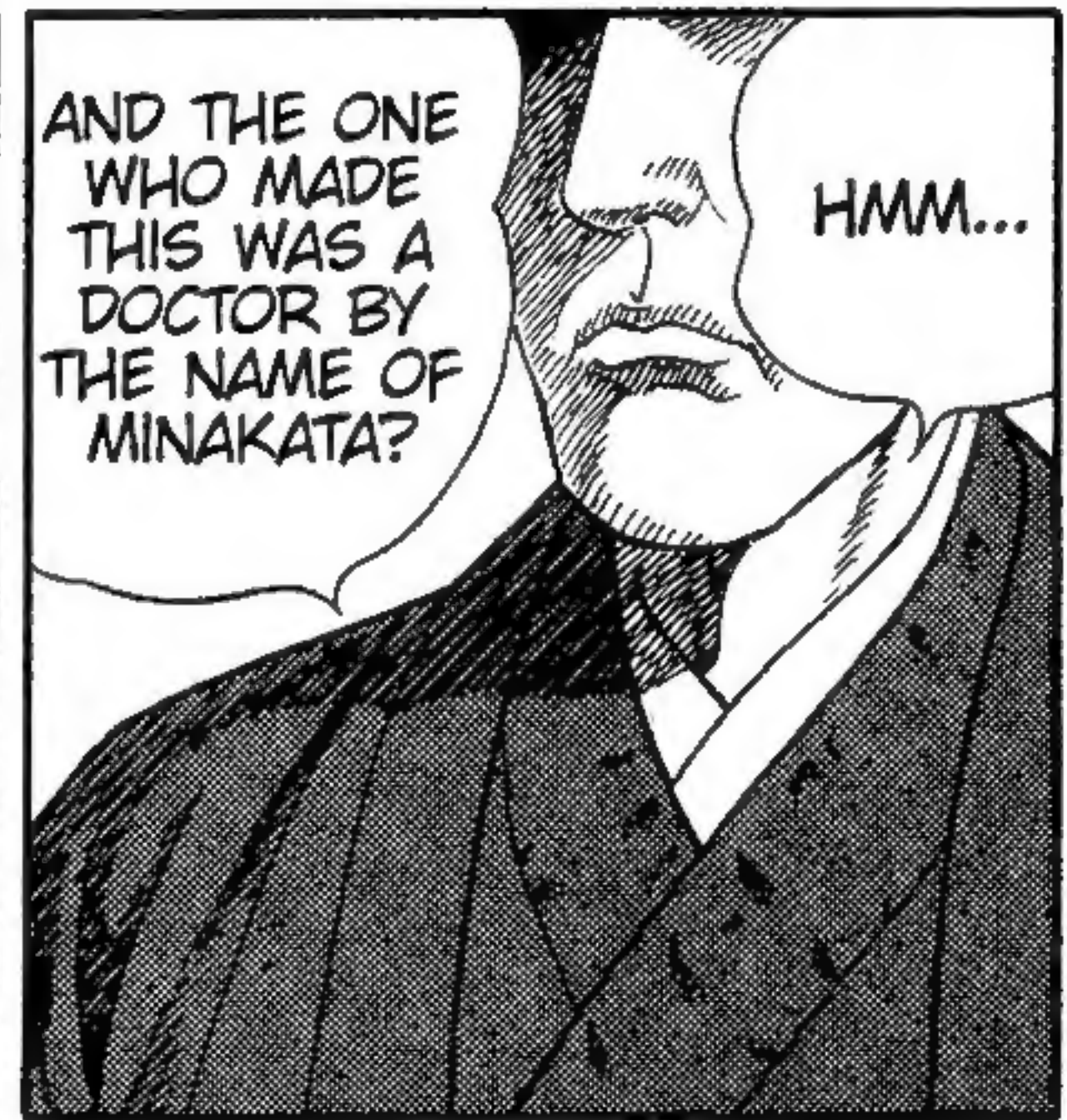














I WANT TO  
FIGURE OUT  
A WAY FOR  
THE WHOLE  
COUNTRY TO  
ADOPT THESE  
ADVANCED  
TECHNIQUES.

HIS MEDICAL  
TECHNIQUES ARE  
SO COMPLETELY  
NEW AND ORIGINAL  
THAT THEY EVEN  
LEFT US WESTERN  
MEDICINE DOCTORS  
BOGGLED...

YOU SEEM  
TO BE IN  
PRETTY BAD  
CONDITION...

COUGH  
COUGH  
COUGH

SENSEI,  
ARE YOU  
OKAY...?

HOWEVER...  
THE HIGHER-  
UPS...

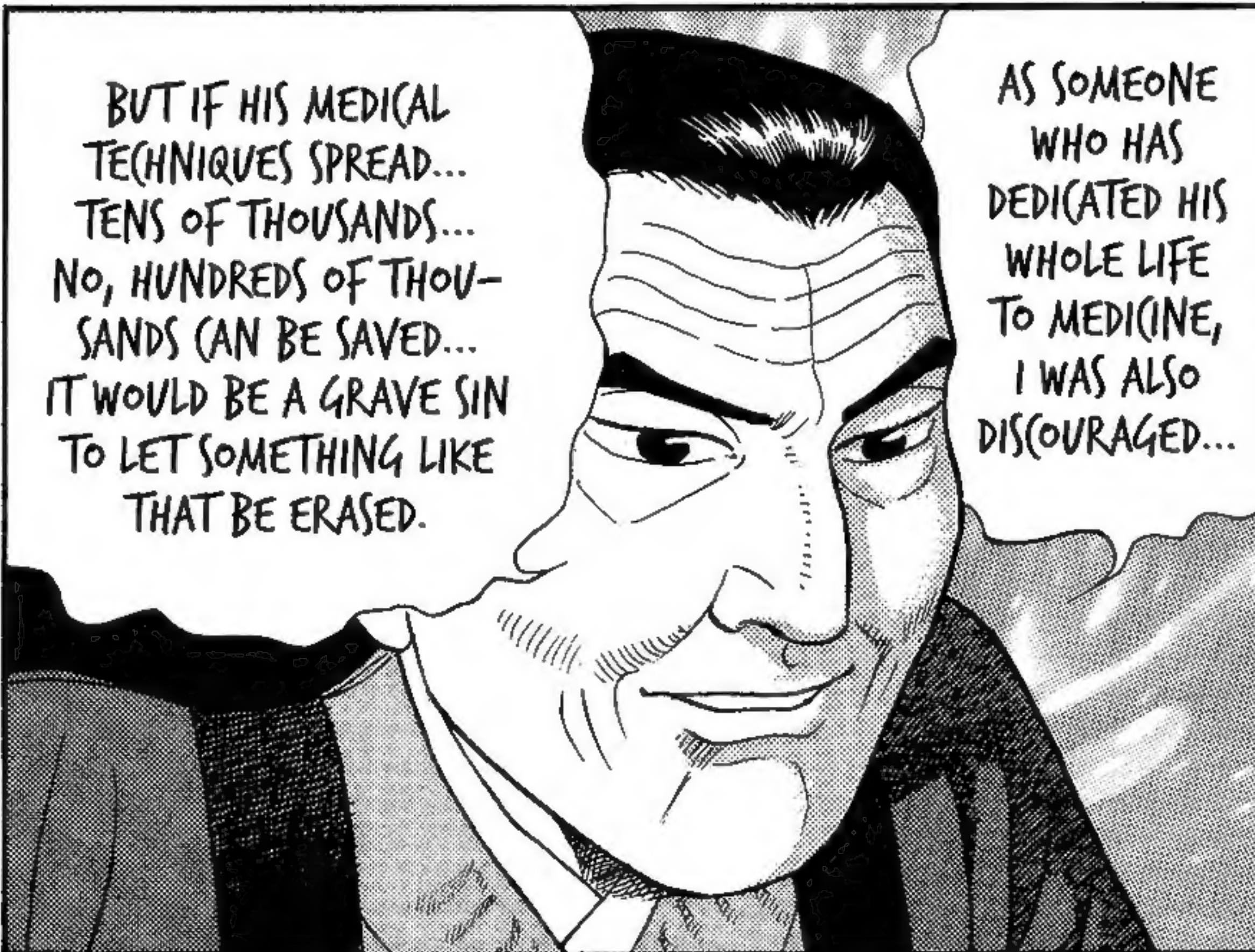
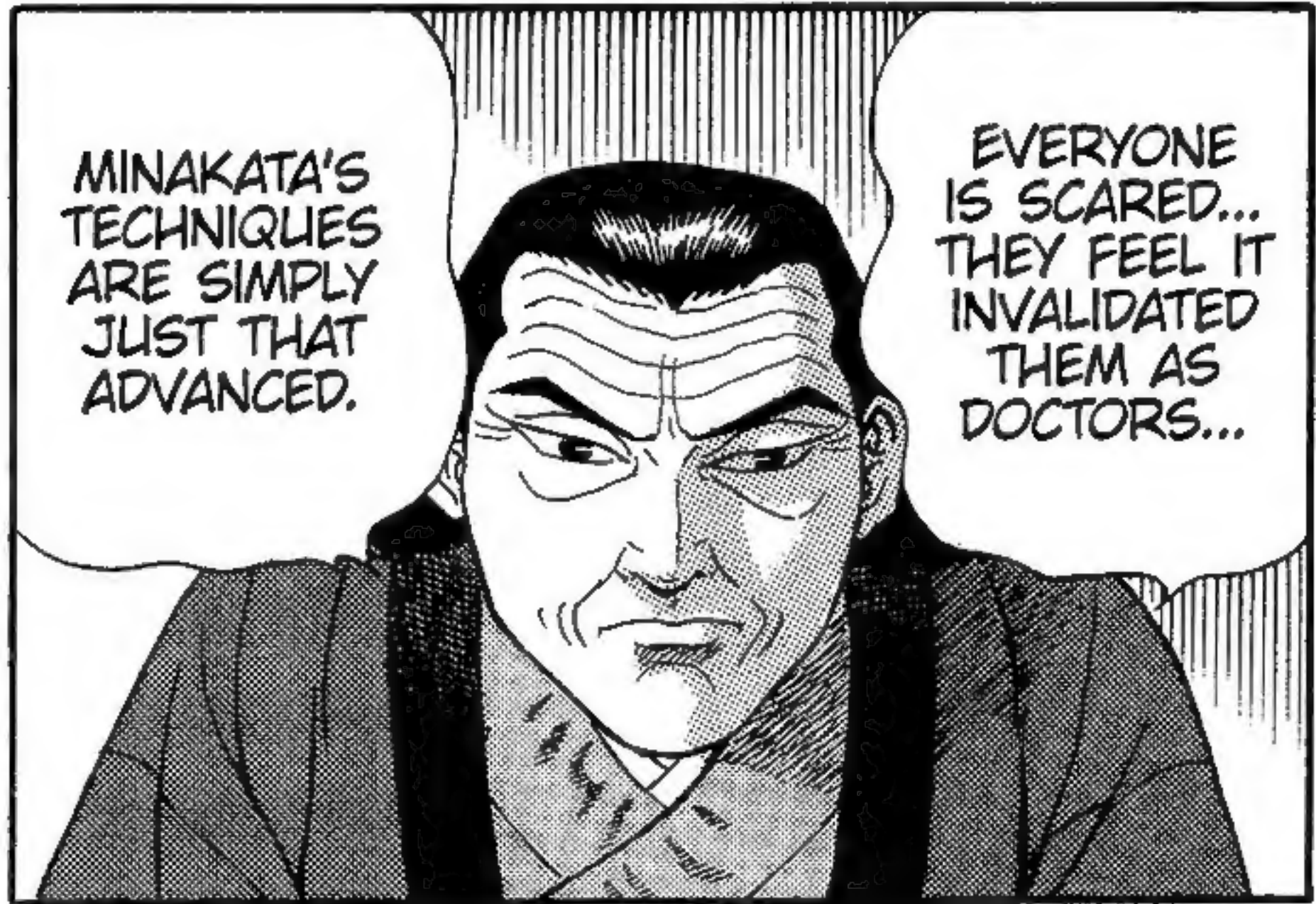
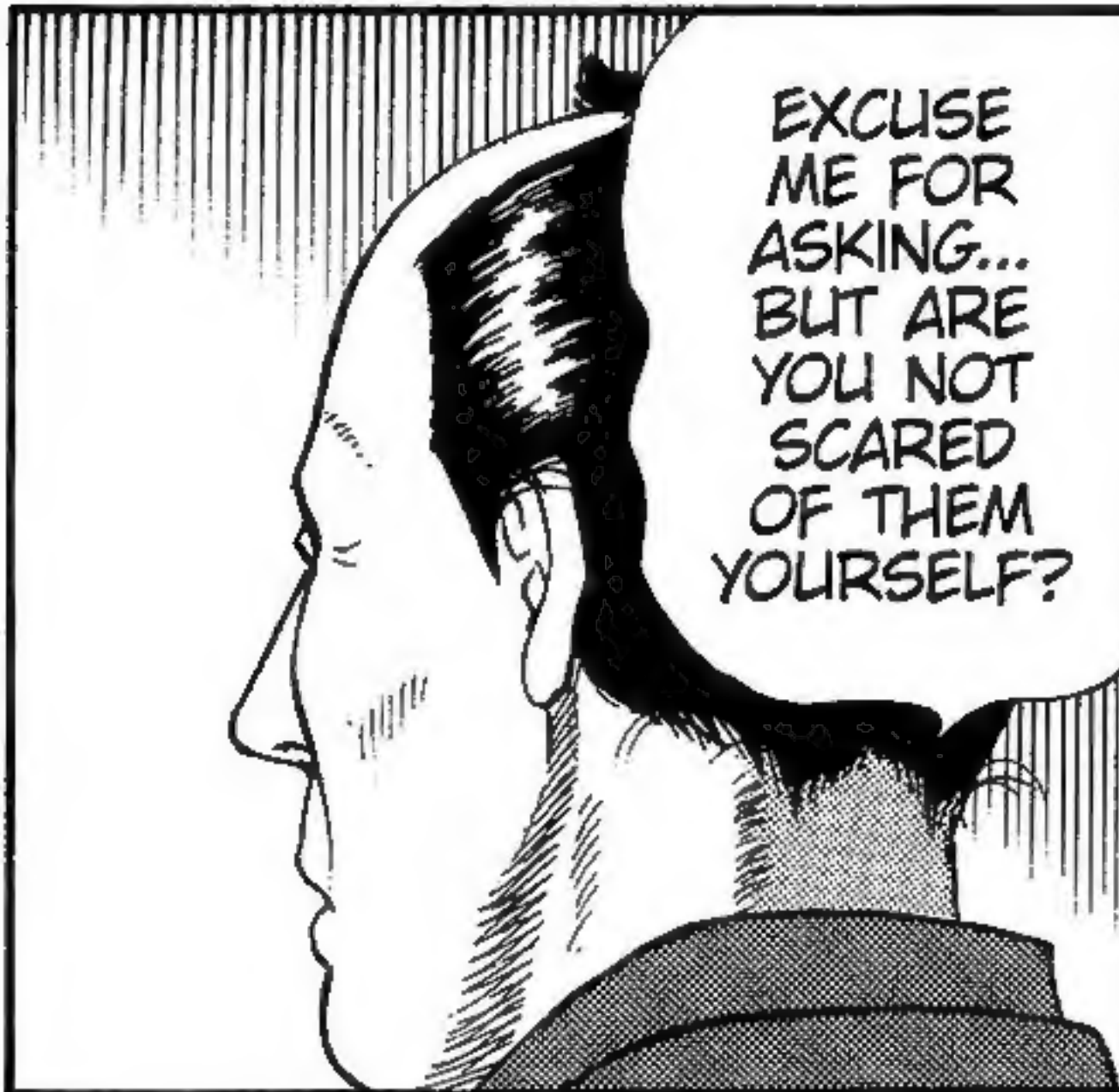
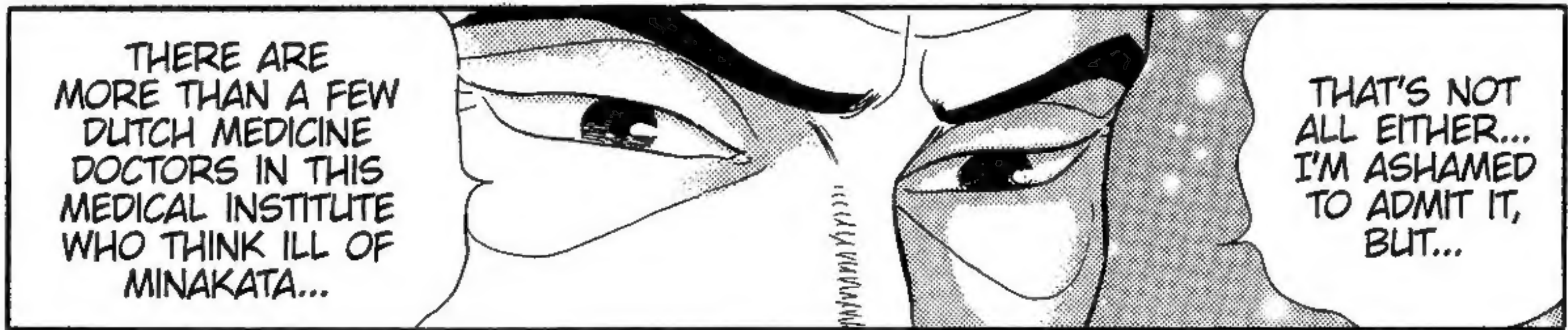
COUGH  
COUGH  
COUGH

WAS IT  
INSTIGATED  
BY TAKI'S  
CLIQUE AT  
THE MEDICAL  
ACADEMY?

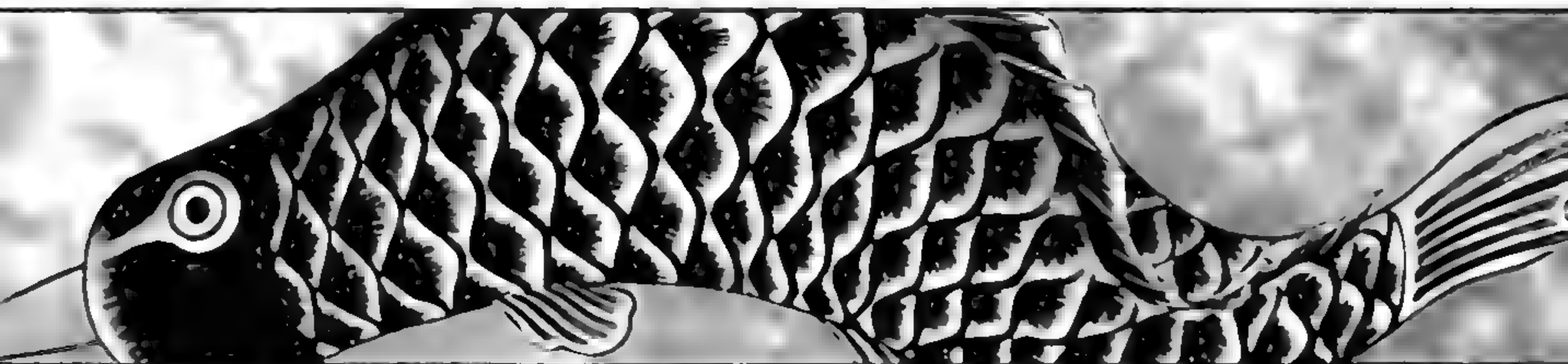
INSTEAD,  
THEY PERCEIVED  
HIS INVOLVEMENT  
WITH THE MEDICAL  
INSTITUTE AS A  
PROBLEM AND  
FORCED HIM TO  
LEAVE...

THE HIGHER-UPS  
DIDN'T ACCEPT  
MINAKATA...

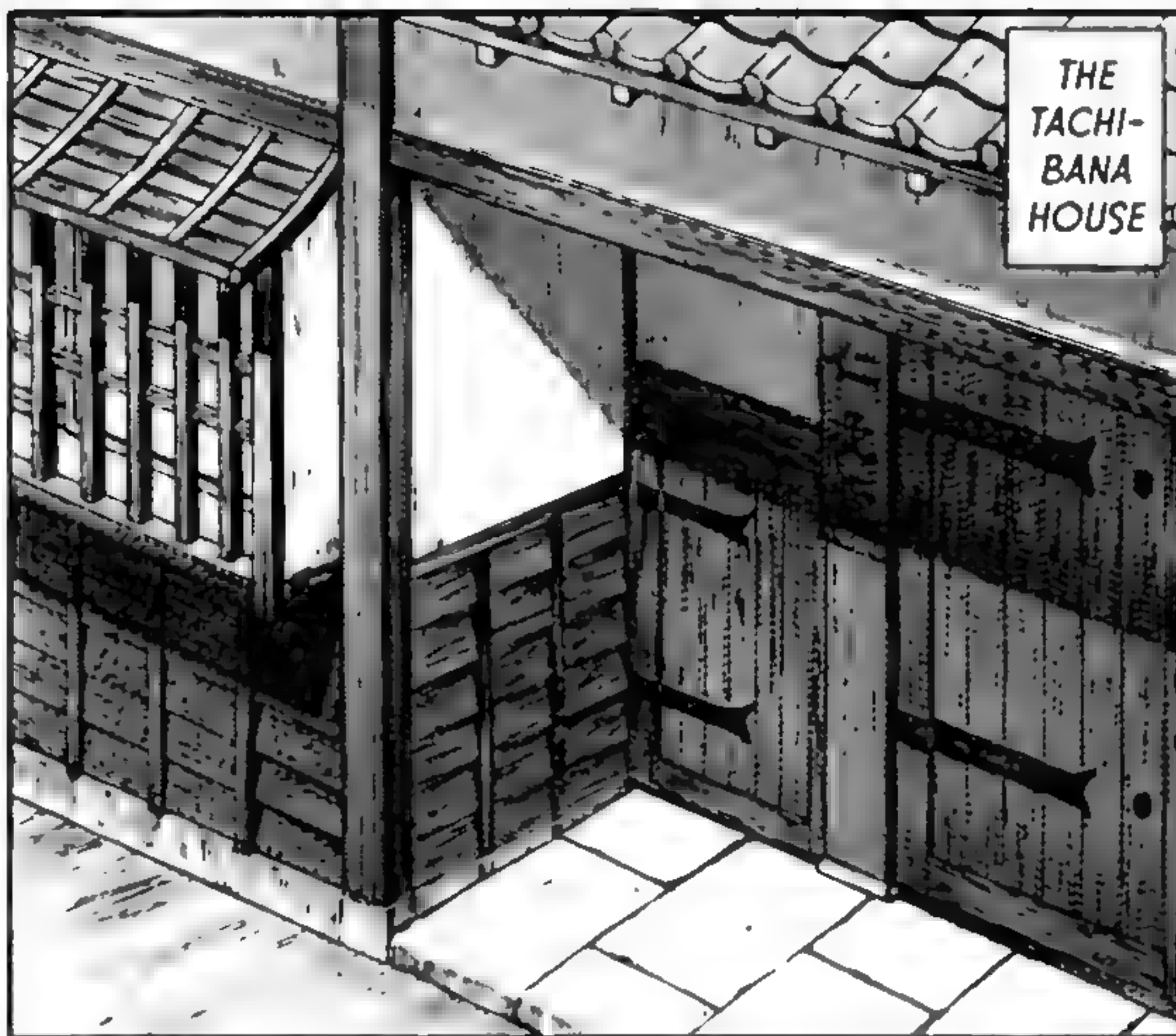




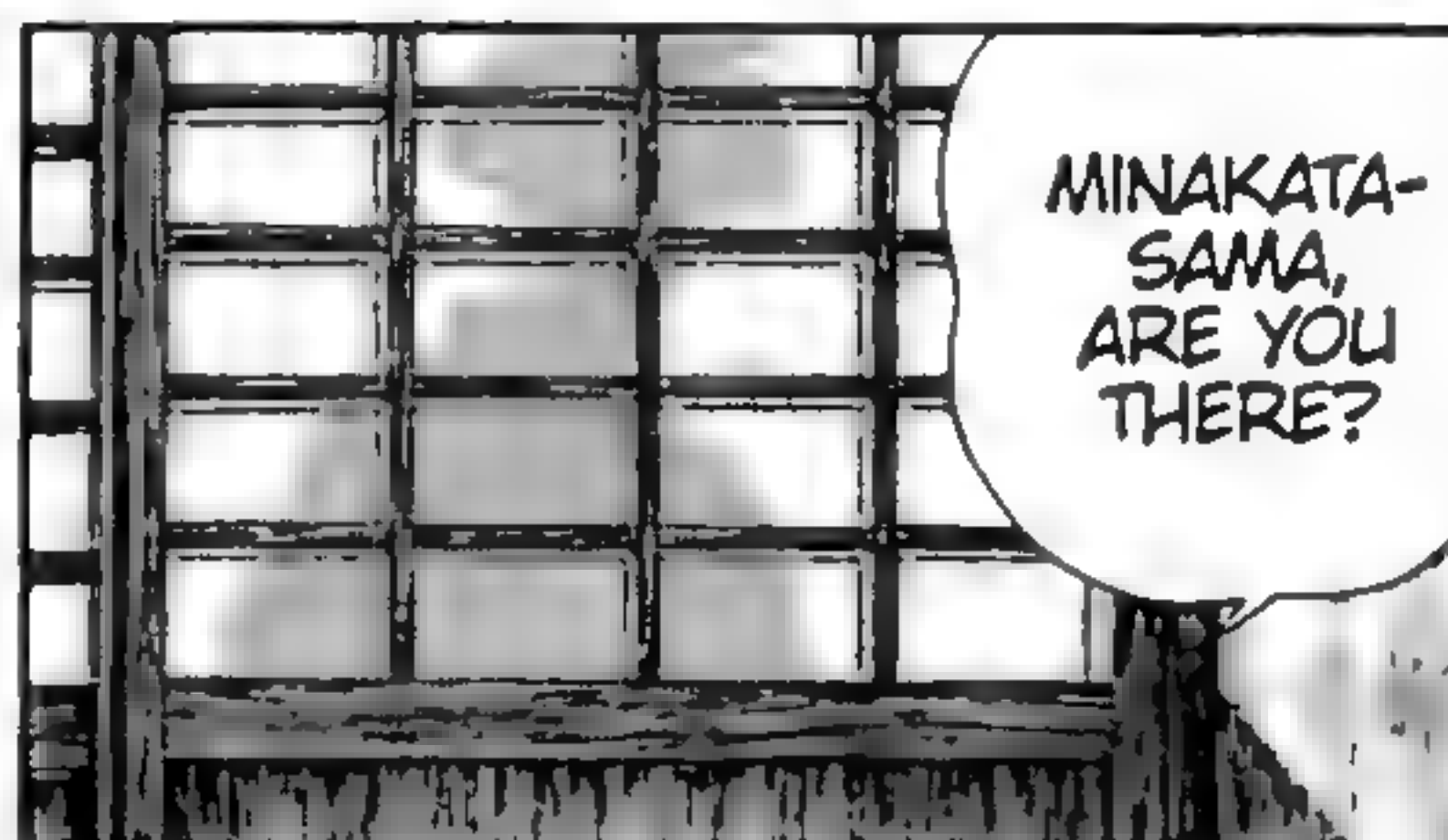






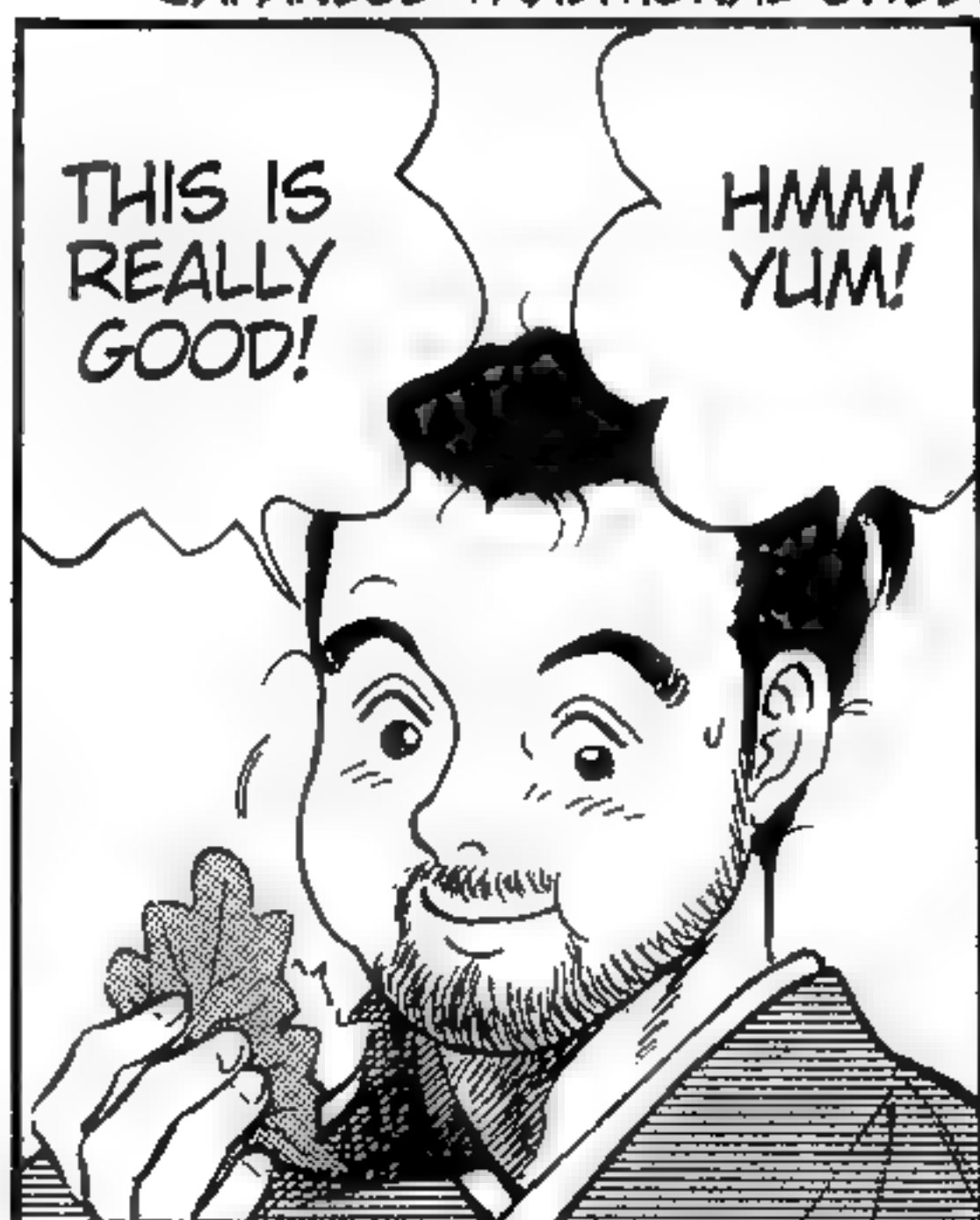


\*SURGERY, JIN'S CLINIC





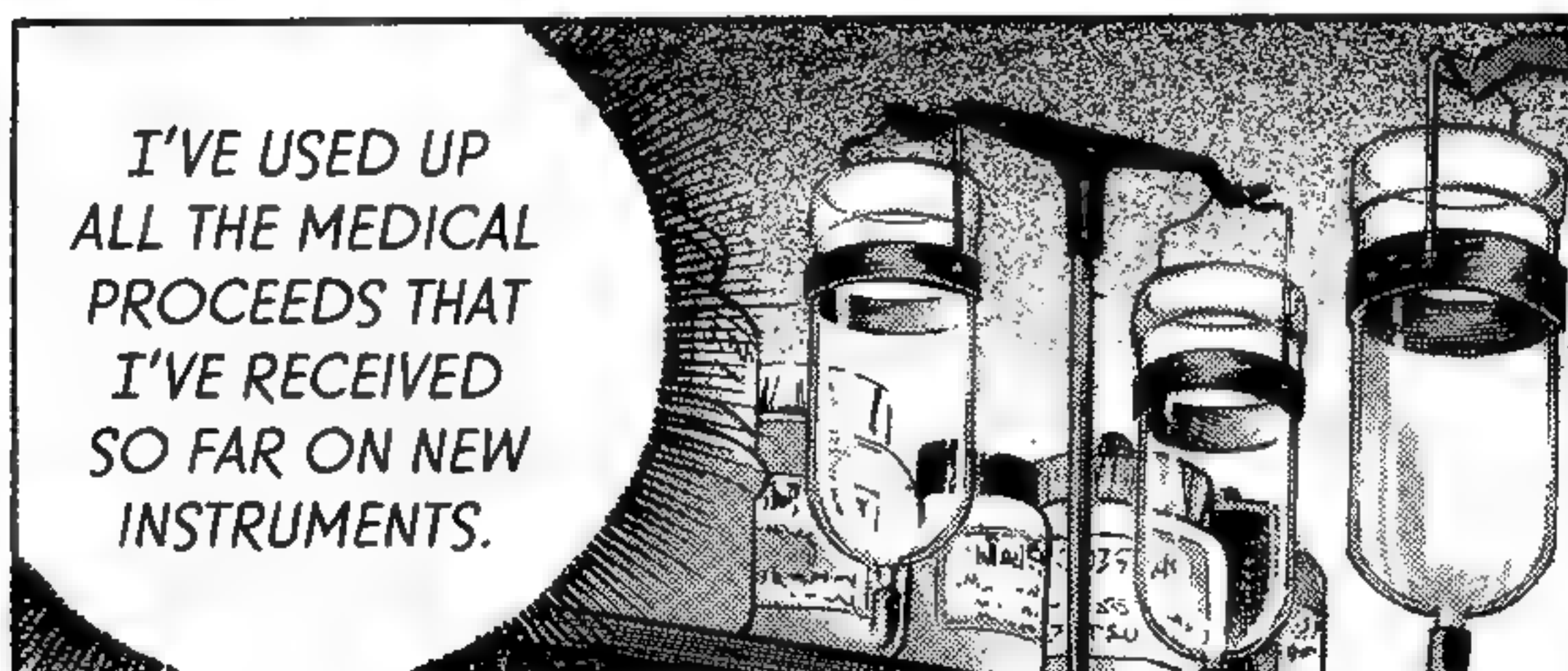
\*JAPANESE TRADITIONAL SWEET RICE CAKE WITH SWEET RED BEAN PASTE WRAPPED IN OAK LEAF.



\*BOY'S DAY (TANGO NO SEKKEI,) NOW KNOWN AS "CHILDREN'S DAY" (KODOMO NO HI.)





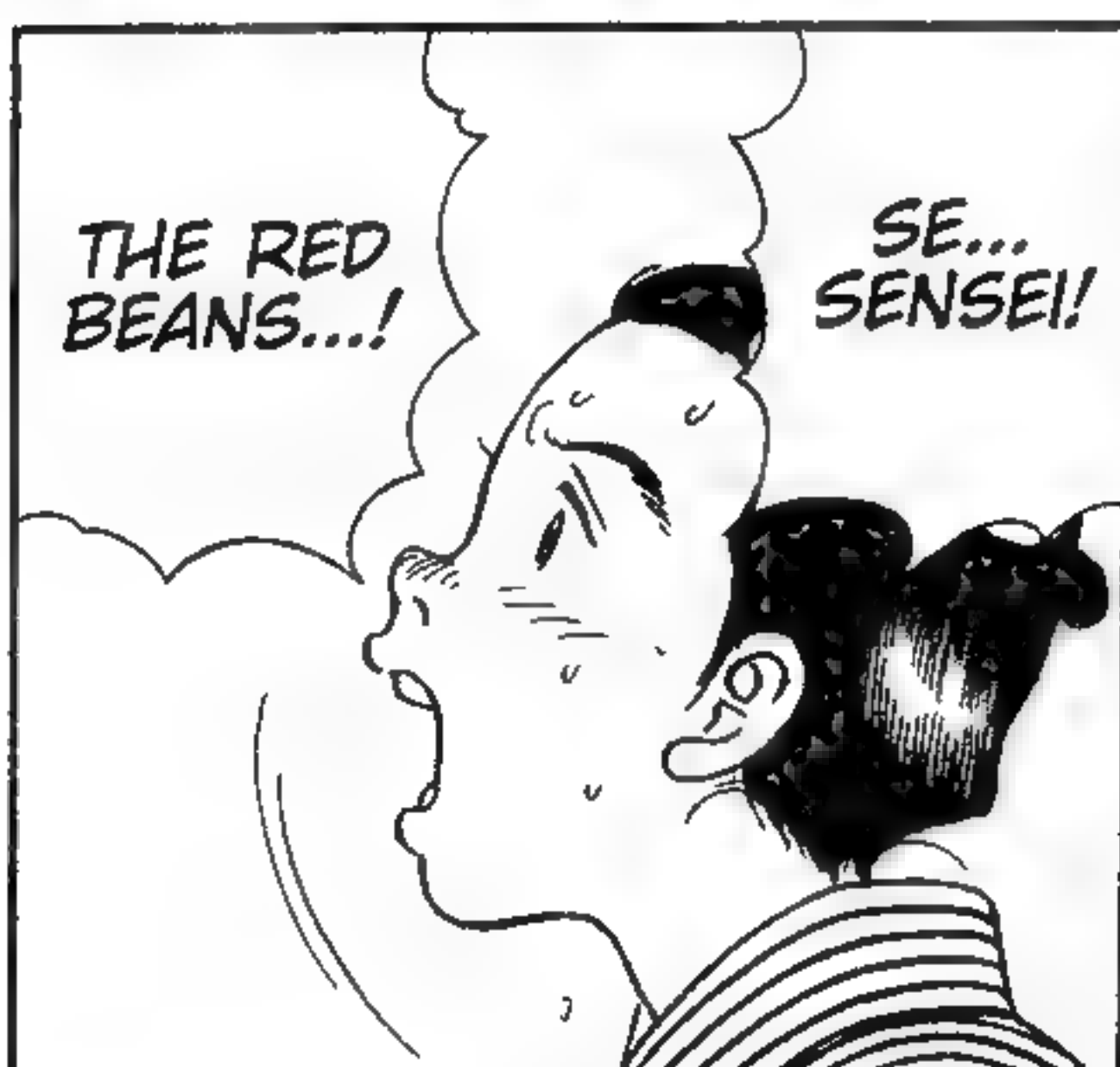
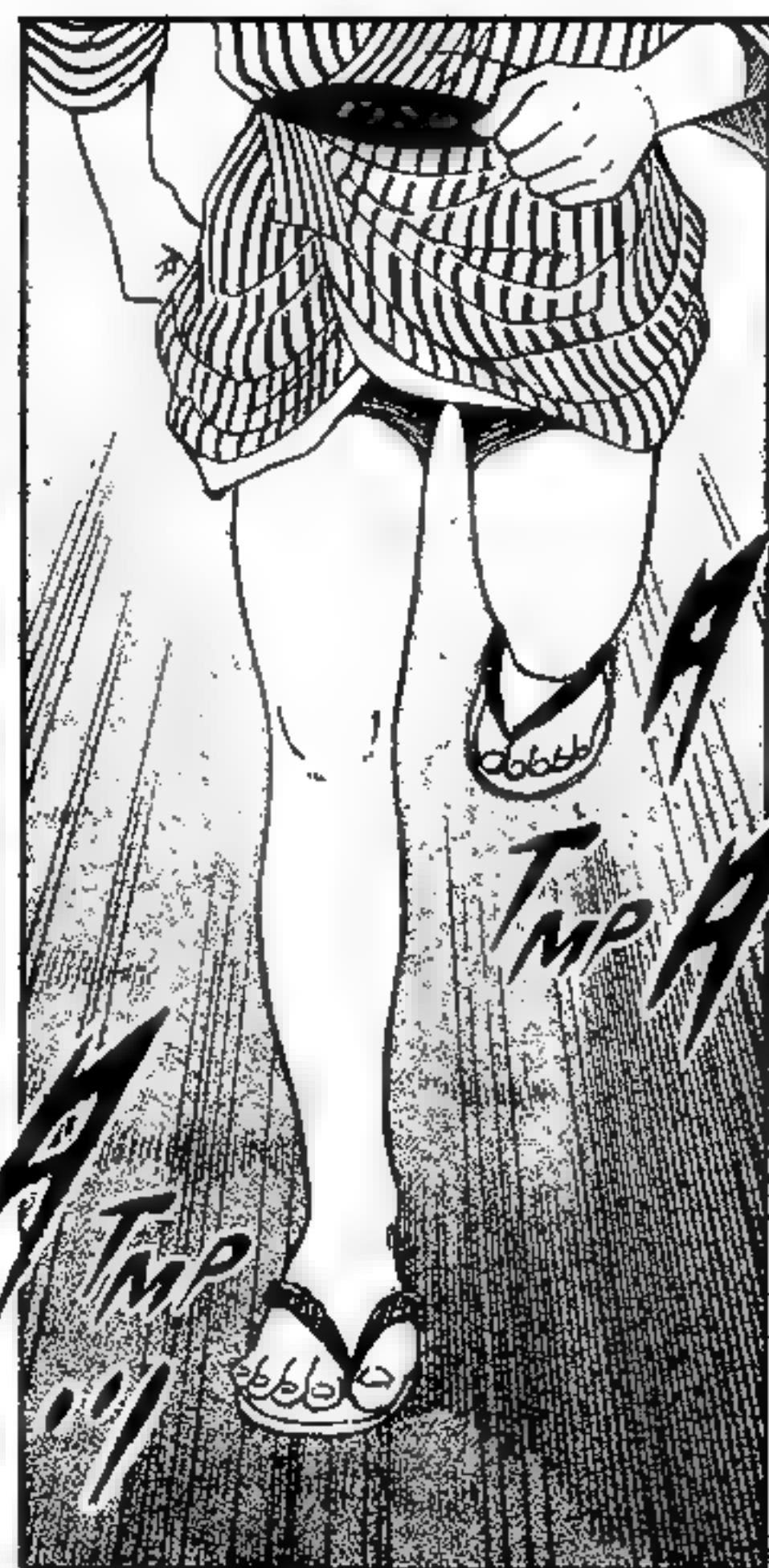






MINAKATA-  
SENSEI,  
ARE YOU  
THERE?!

SENSEI!



THE RED  
BEANS...!

SE...  
SENSEI!



COME ON IN.  
I HAVE SOME  
REALLY TASTY  
RICE CAKES  
FOR YOU.



KIICHI! YOU  
CAME SO  
SOON!



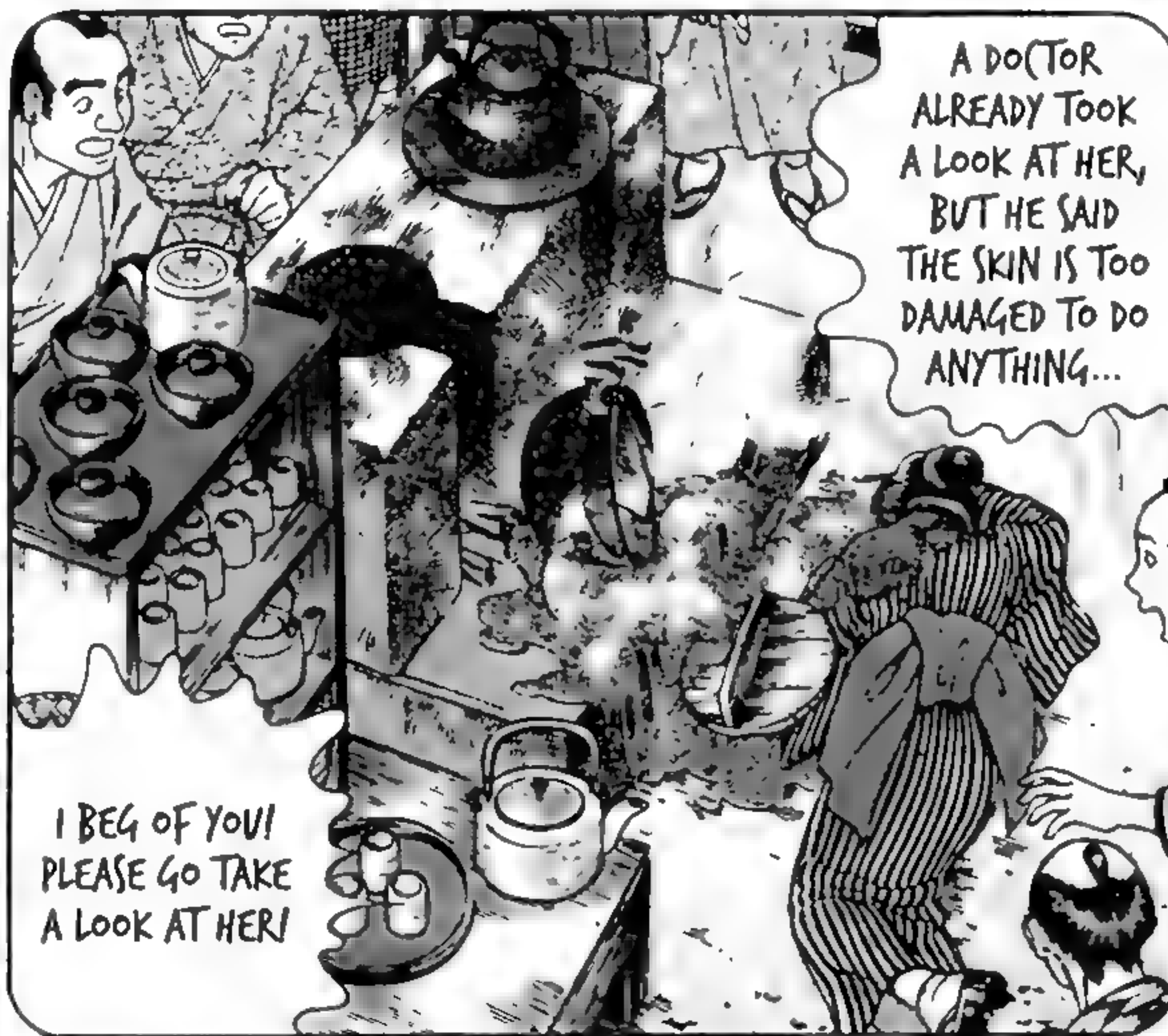
SHE GOT  
BURNED  
REALLY  
BAD!

NO, THAT'S NOT IT!  
AKANE-SAN GOT BOIL-  
ING HOT RED BEAN  
PASTE SPLASHED ON  
HER FACE WHILE SHE  
WAS MAKING SWEET  
DUMPLINGS AND...



OF COURSE  
THEY'RE FULL  
OF RED BEAN  
PASTE!

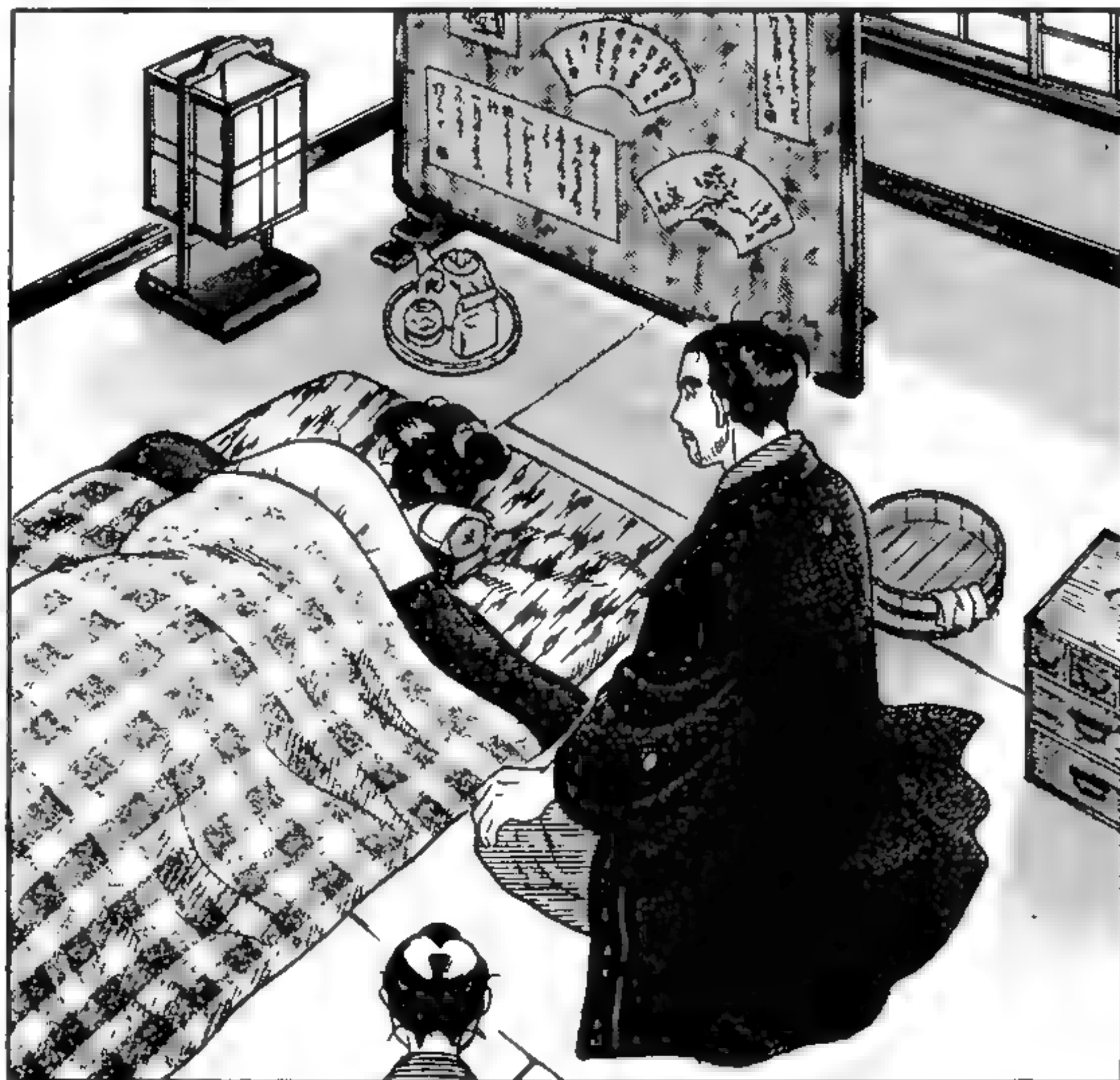
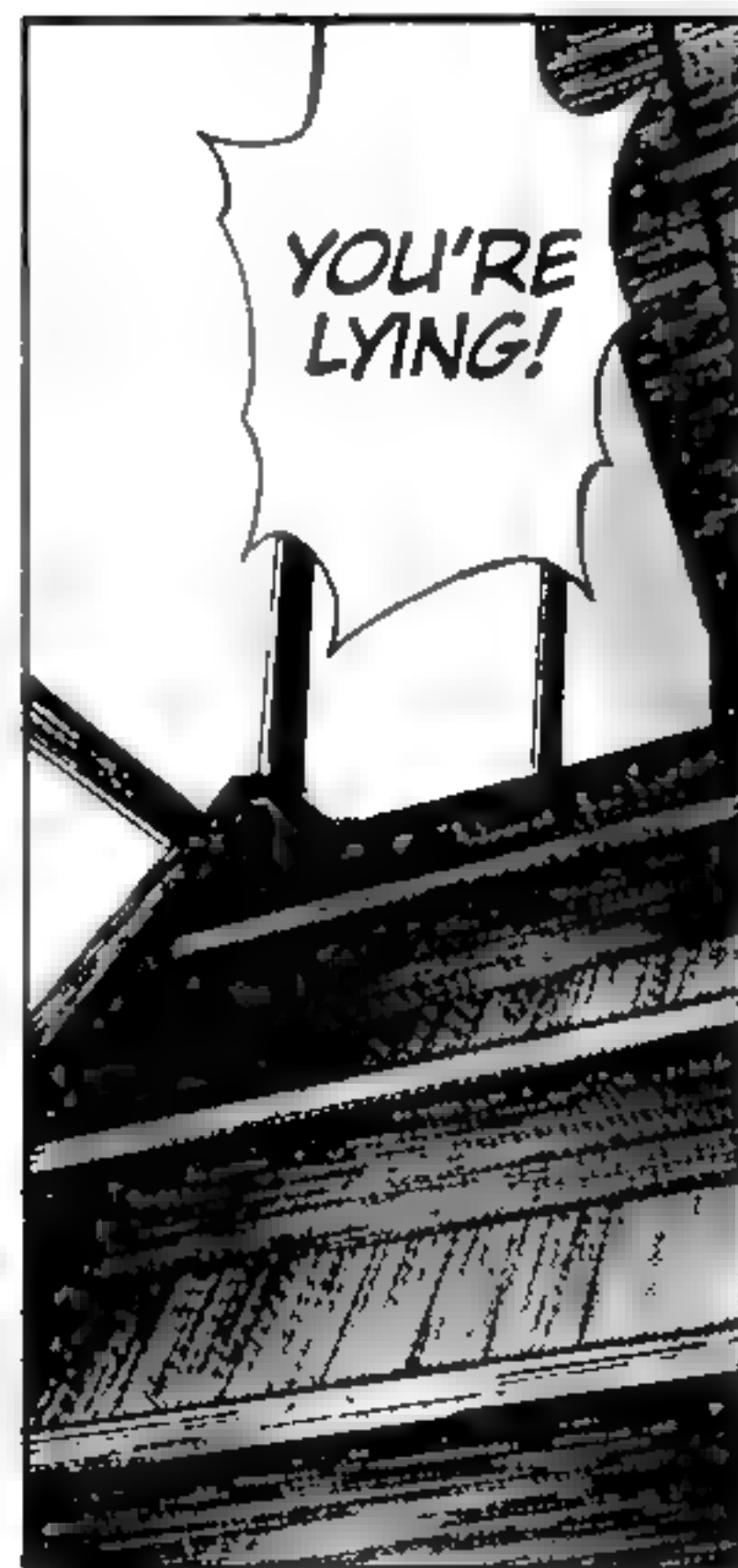










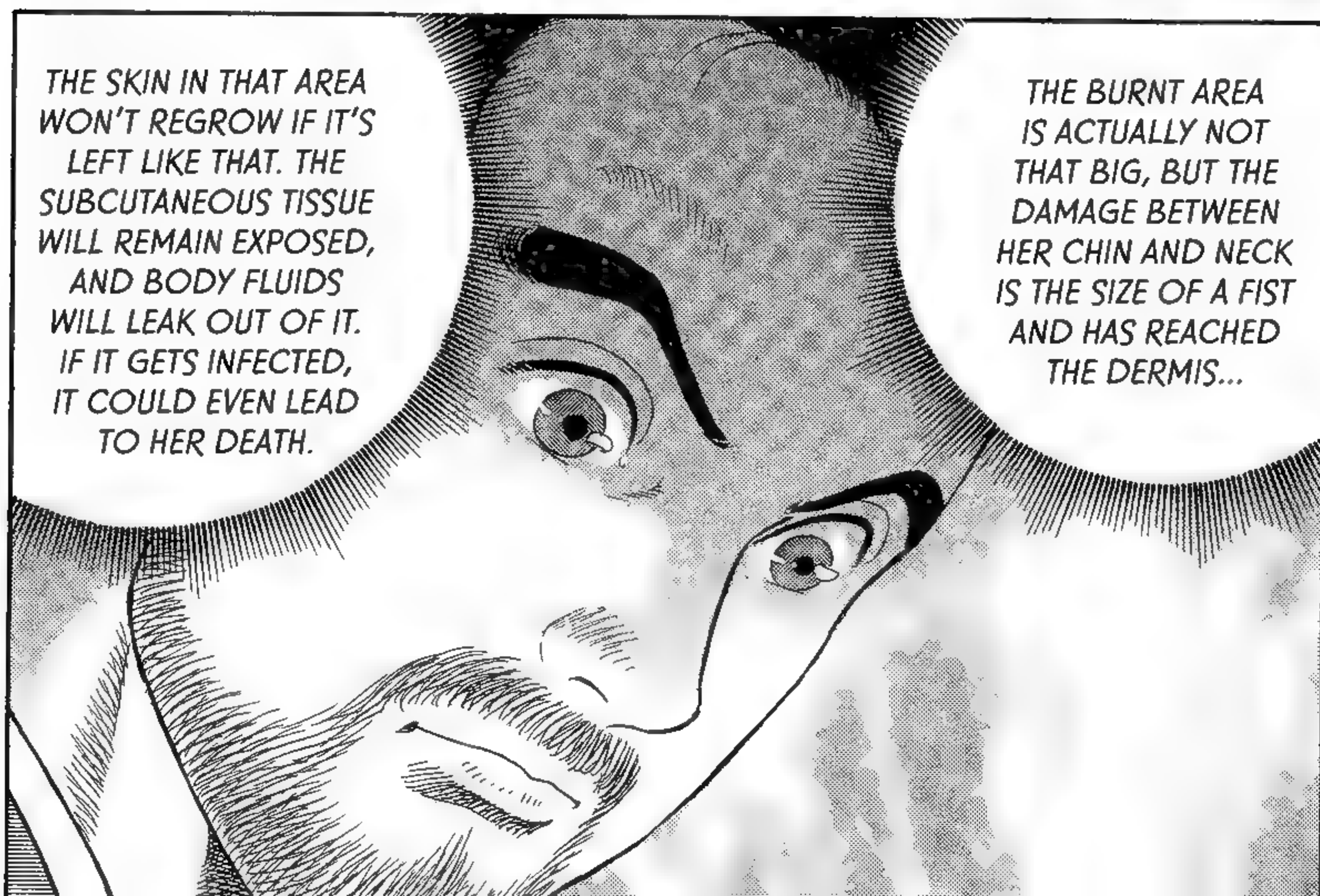




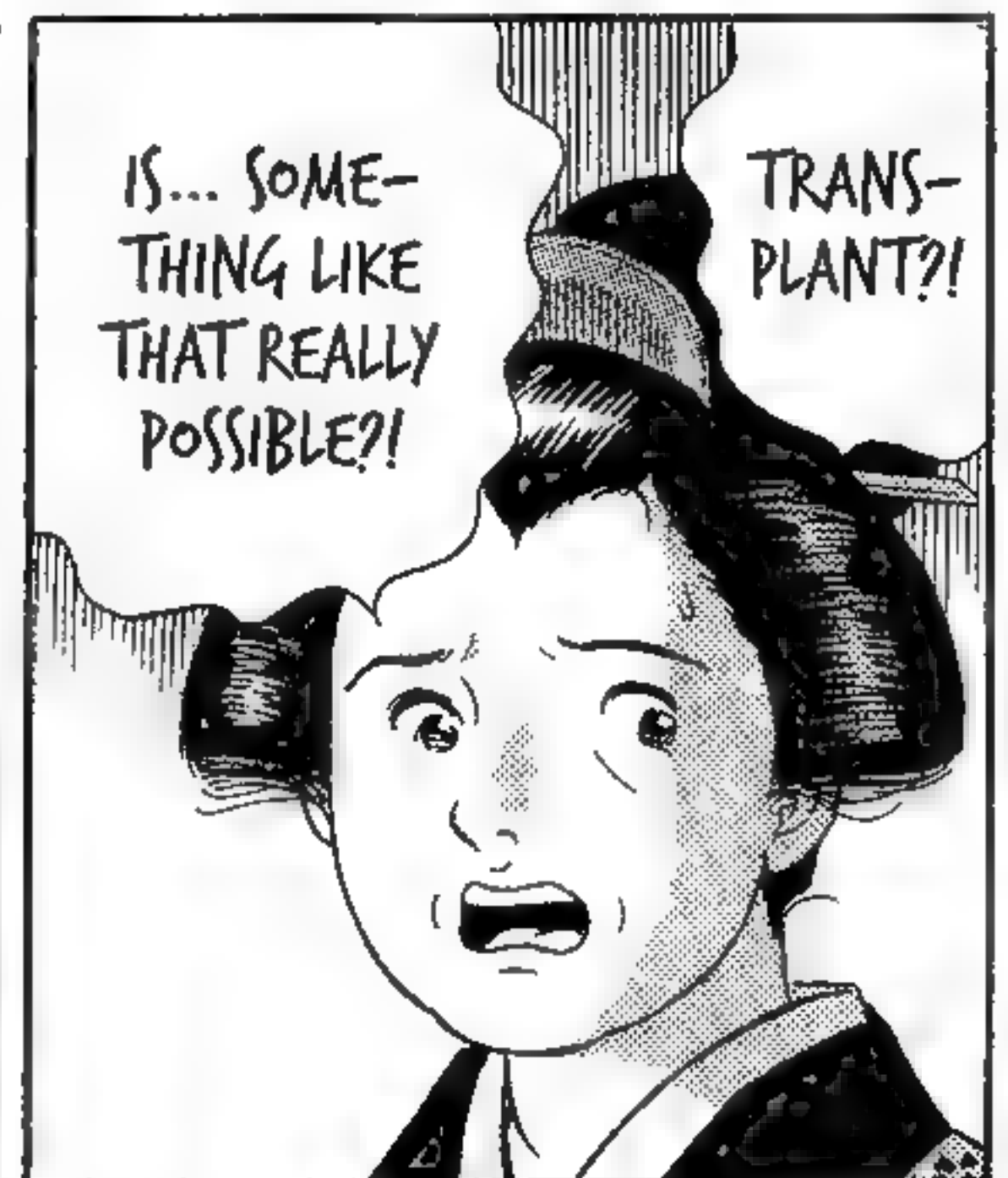


THE SKIN IN THAT AREA  
WON'T REGROW IF IT'S  
LEFT LIKE THAT. THE  
SUBCUTANEOUS TISSUE  
WILL REMAIN EXPOSED,  
AND BODY FLUIDS  
WILL LEAK OUT OF IT.  
IF IT GETS INFECTED,  
IT COULD EVEN LEAD  
TO HER DEATH.

THE BURNT AREA  
IS ACTUALLY NOT  
THAT BIG, BUT THE  
DAMAGE BETWEEN  
HER CHIN AND NECK  
IS THE SIZE OF A FIST  
AND HAS REACHED  
THE DERMIS...









SENSEI, UM... HOW MUCH WOULD THIS ALL BE? AS YOU CAN SEE, WE RUN A HUMBLE STORE... CAN WE REALLY AFFORD IT...?

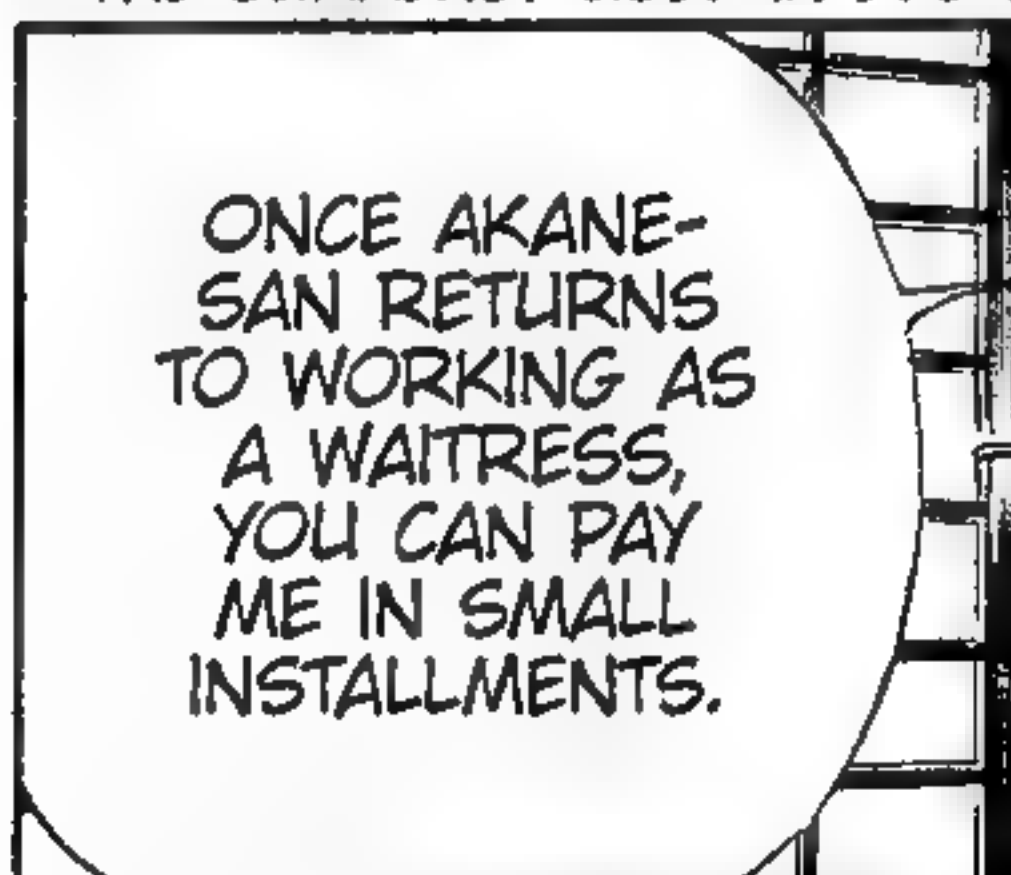


I'M SO... GLAD...



\*THE CURRENCY USED IN EDO PERIOD. ALTHOUGH ITS PRICE FLUCTUATED DURING ITS TIME OF USE,

ONCE AKANE-SAN RETURNS TO WORKING AS A WAITRESS, YOU CAN PAY ME IN SMALL INSTALLMENTS.



THE TREATMENT FEE WILL BE ABOUT TWO RYO\*, BUT YOU ONLY HAVE TO PAY IF IT SUCCEEDS.



IT CAN BE ASSUMED THAT A RYO WAS WELL WORTH OVER A THOUSAND DOLLARS AT THE LEAST.

UNTIL THEN, I'LL COME BY EVERYDAY TO DISINFECT THE WOUND.



WELL THEN, I'LL PERFORM THE SURGERY ABOUT A WEEK AFTER THE DAY YOU GOT BURNED.

DID YOU KNOW? A WAITRESS CAN RECEIVE A LOT OF TIPS FROM HER CUSTOMERS!

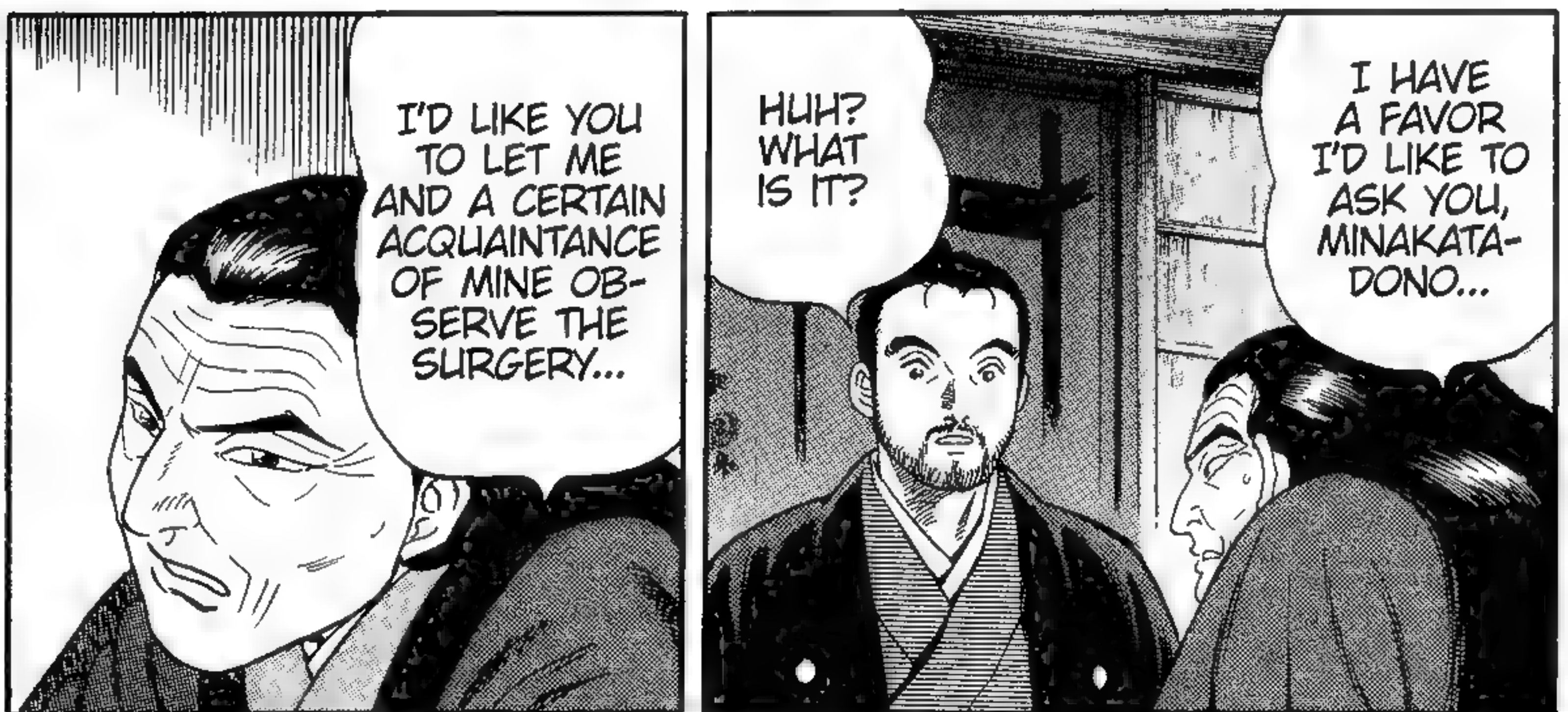
I'LL BE HAPPY TO DO SO!

















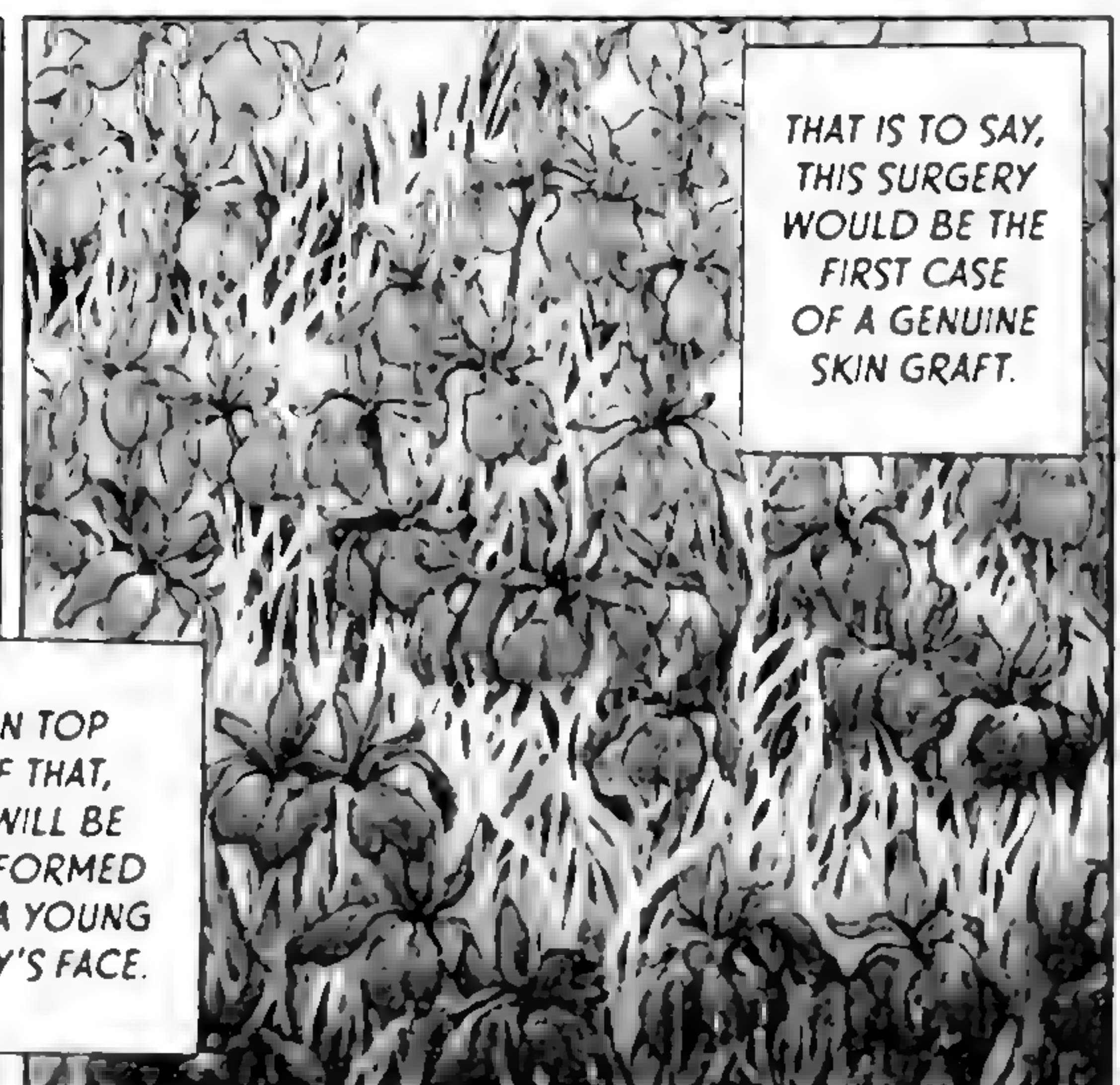
A black and white illustration of a large, multi-masted sailing ship, possibly a galleon, on a river. The ship has several masts with complex rigging. In the background, there are trees and a distant shoreline. The ship is the central focus of the top half of the page.

HE SAID  
IT'S OFTEN  
PERFORMED IN  
GERMANY AND  
ENGLAND, BUT  
APPARENTLY  
WITH SURGICAL  
TECHNIQUES  
THAT ARE QUITE  
PRIMITIVE

ACCORDING TO  
OGATA-SENSEI,  
SKIN TRANSPLANT  
SURGERY HAD  
BEEN PERFORMED  
IN ANCIENT INDIA  
FOR RHINOPLASTY  
THE TECHNIQUE  
FOR IT WAS THEN  
PASSED OVER TO  
EUROPE

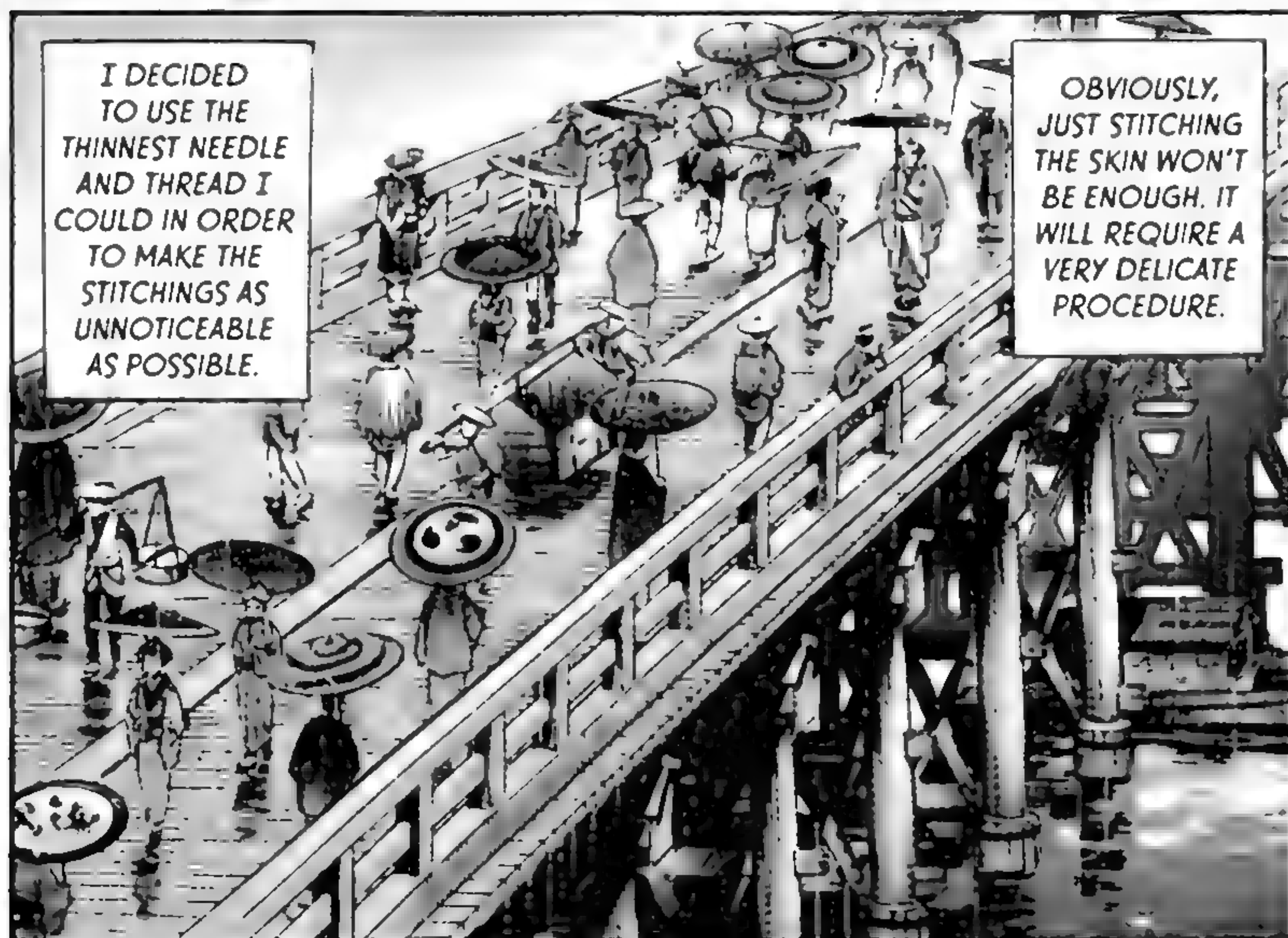


ON TOP  
OF THAT,  
IT WILL BE  
PERFORMED  
ON A YOUNG  
LADY'S FACE.

A black and white illustration of a dense field of plants with small, round fruits, possibly strawberries. The plants are shown in a close-up, with the fruits being the main focus.

THAT IS TO SAY,  
THIS SURGERY  
WOULD BE THE  
FIRST CASE  
OF A GENUINE  
SKIN GRAFT.





I DECIDED  
TO USE THE  
THINNEST NEEDLE  
AND THREAD I  
COULD IN ORDER  
TO MAKE THE  
STITCHINGS AS  
UNNOTICEABLE  
AS POSSIBLE.

OBVIOUSLY,  
JUST STITCHING  
THE SKIN WON'T  
BE ENOUGH. IT  
WILL REQUIRE A  
VERY DELICATE  
PROCEDURE.



THEN, I'LL HAVE TO  
MAKE SURE THAT THE  
GRAFTED SKIN JOINS  
PROPERLY WITHOUT  
GETTING INFECTED...  
ALL THAT I CAN DO  
FOR THAT IS PRAY  
THAT THE NATURAL  
PENICILLIN DOES ITS  
JOB PROPERLY



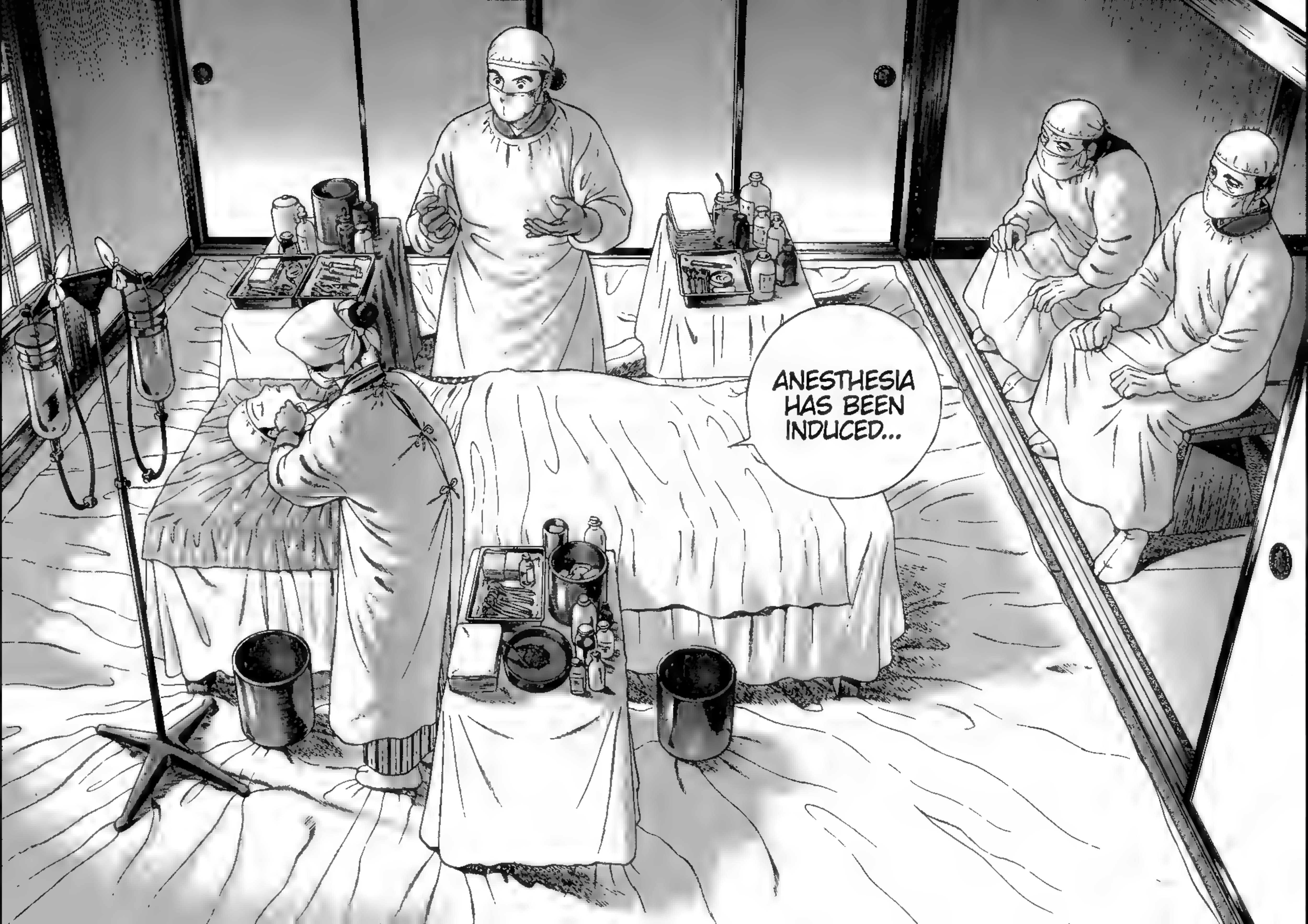
THE FIFTH  
MONTH OF  
THE YEAR  
IN EDO IS  
TRULY THE  
SEASON OF  
RAIN...

EARLY  
SUMMER  
RAIN...









ANESTHESIA  
HAS BEEN  
INDUCED...

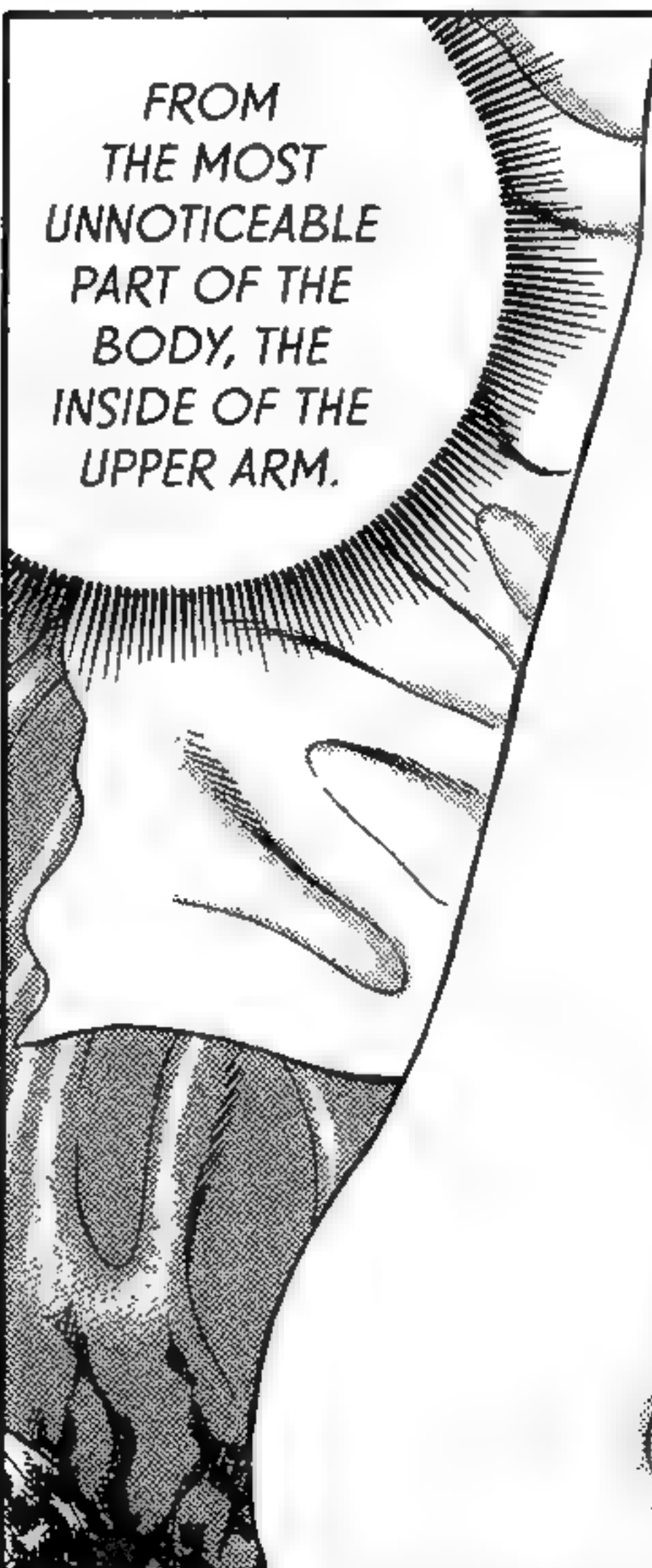




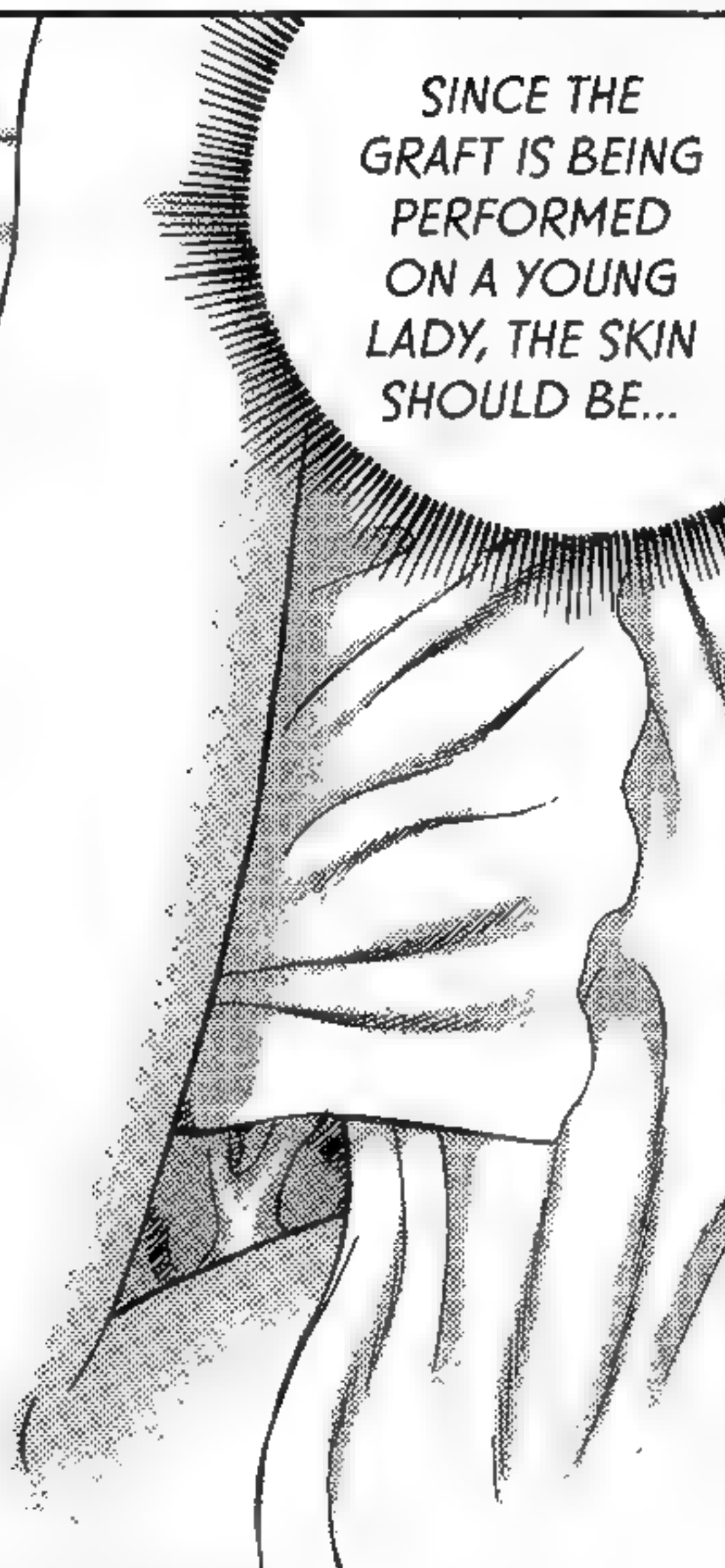
FIRST,  
I'LL NEED  
TO PERFORM  
A DEBRIDE-  
MENT.



I BRUSH  
AWAY ALL THE  
NECROTIC AND  
CONTAMINATED  
TISSUE OF THE  
WOUND.



FROM  
THE MOST  
UNNOTICEABLE  
PART OF THE  
BODY, THE  
INSIDE OF THE  
UPPER ARM.

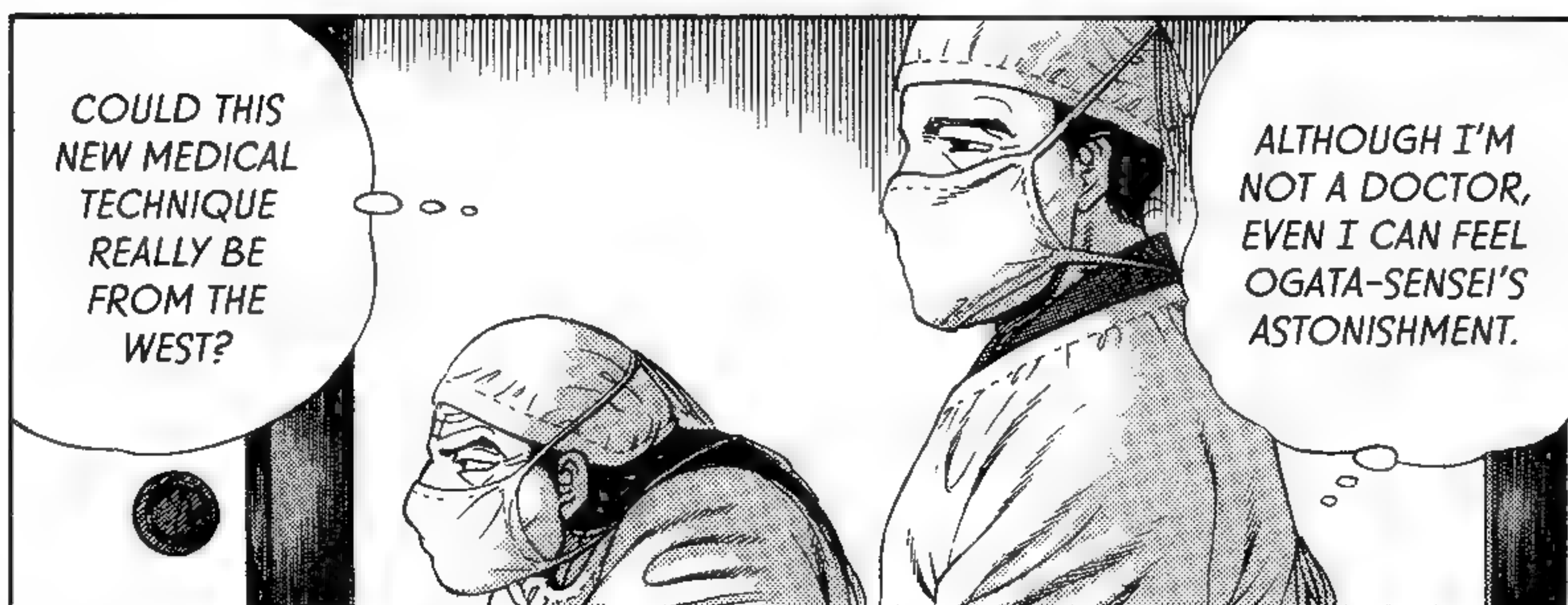
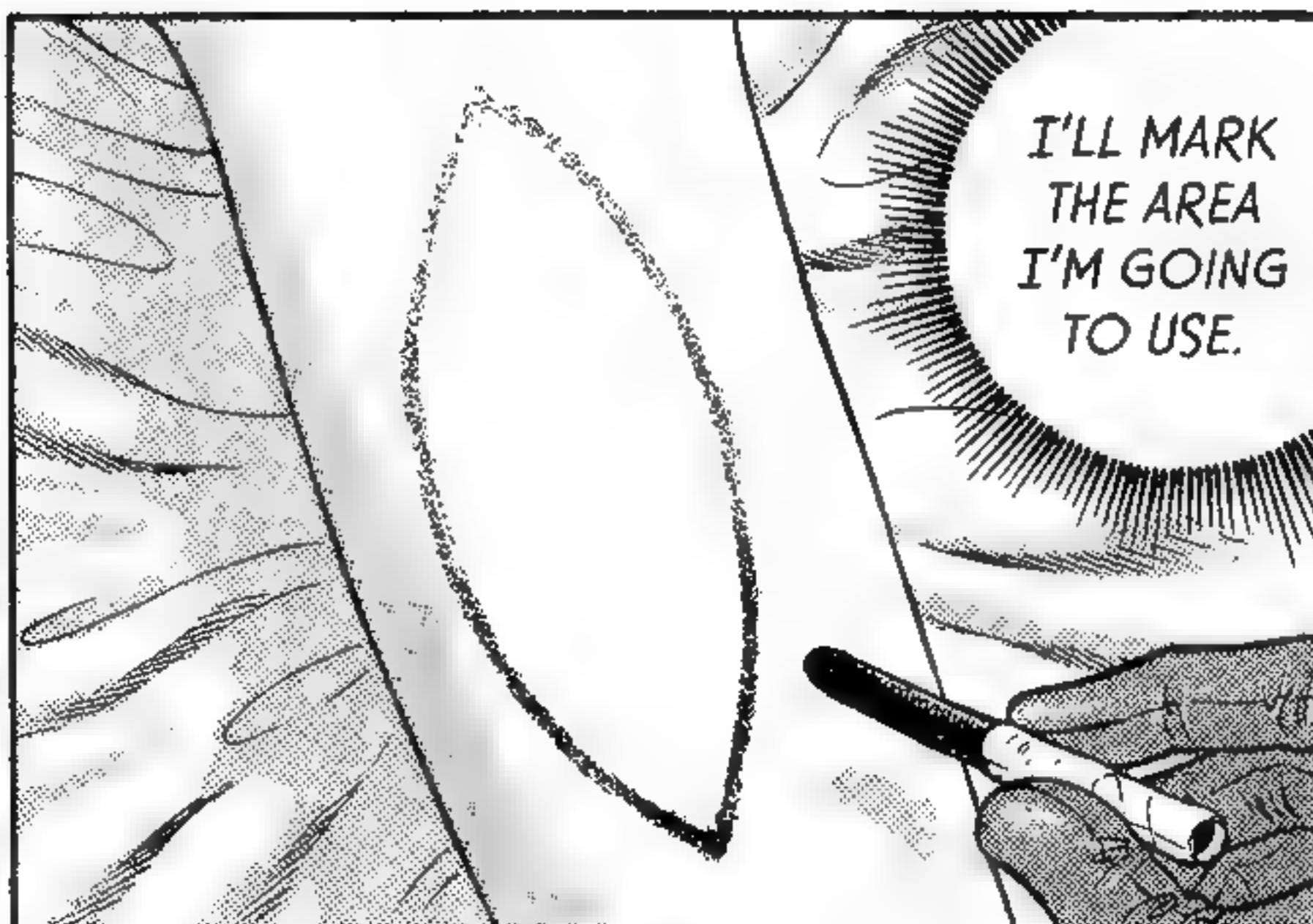


SINCE THE  
GRAFT IS BEING  
PERFORMED  
ON A YOUNG  
LADY, THE SKIN  
SHOULD BE...



ONCE DONE,  
I HAVE TO STOP  
THE BLEEDING  
COMPLETELY.

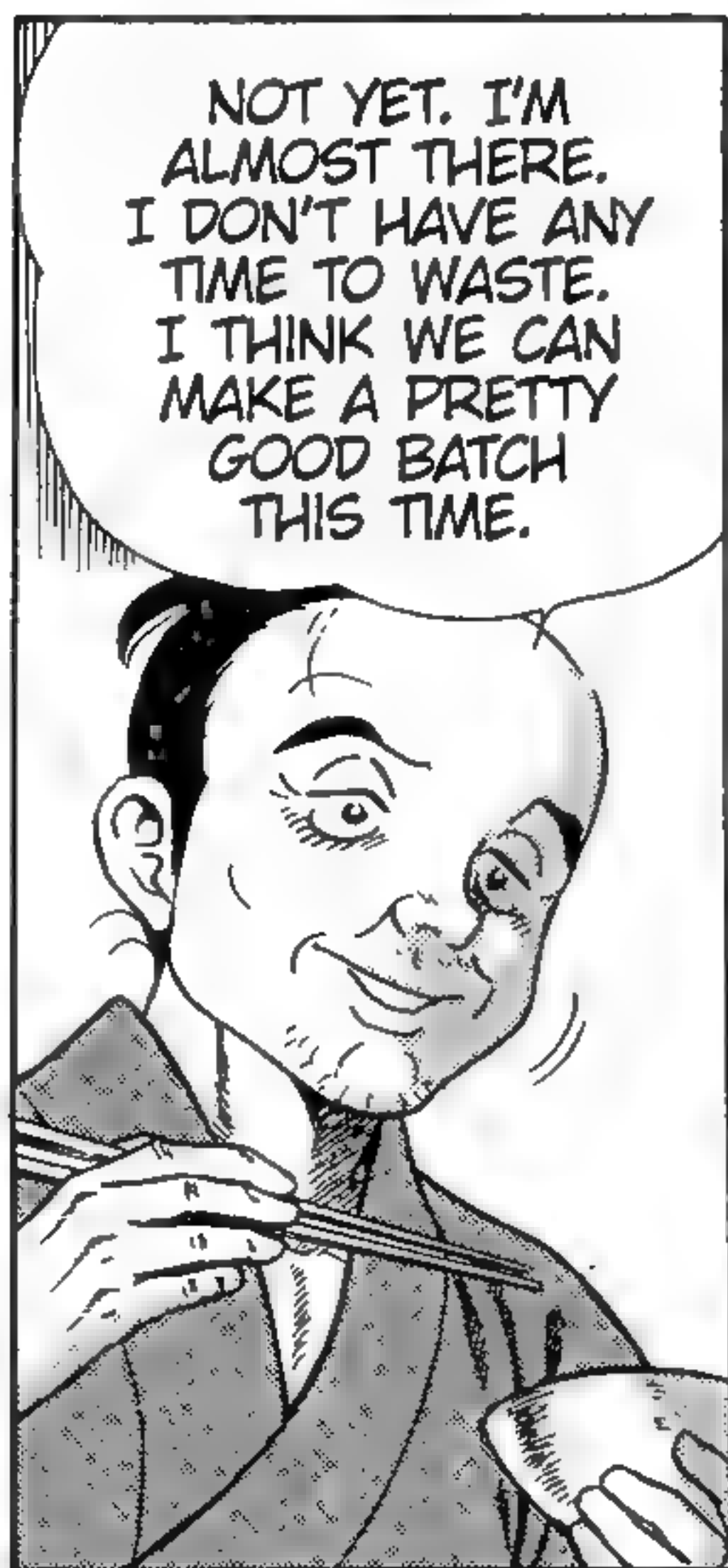




















WE'VE GOT  
AN EMERGENCY  
HERE! THERE'S  
SMOKE RISING  
FROM THE REAR  
OF THE MEDICAL  
INSTITUTE!

## PROGRESS CHAPTER PART 2: THE PARTING GIFT



WE NEED  
TO MAKE  
SURE THAT  
THE FIRE  
DOESN'T  
SPREAD!

WATER!  
SPLASH  
WATER ON  
THE FIRE!



H-HOW COULD  
THIS HAPPEN  
IN THE BRIEF  
MOMENTS I  
WAS AWAY  
FROM THE  
ROOM?!

THIS... CAN'T  
BE HAPPENING!  
THERE SHOULDN'T  
HAVE BEEN ANY-  
THING THAT WOULD  
CATCH FIRE IN THE  
PRODUCTION  
ROOM!



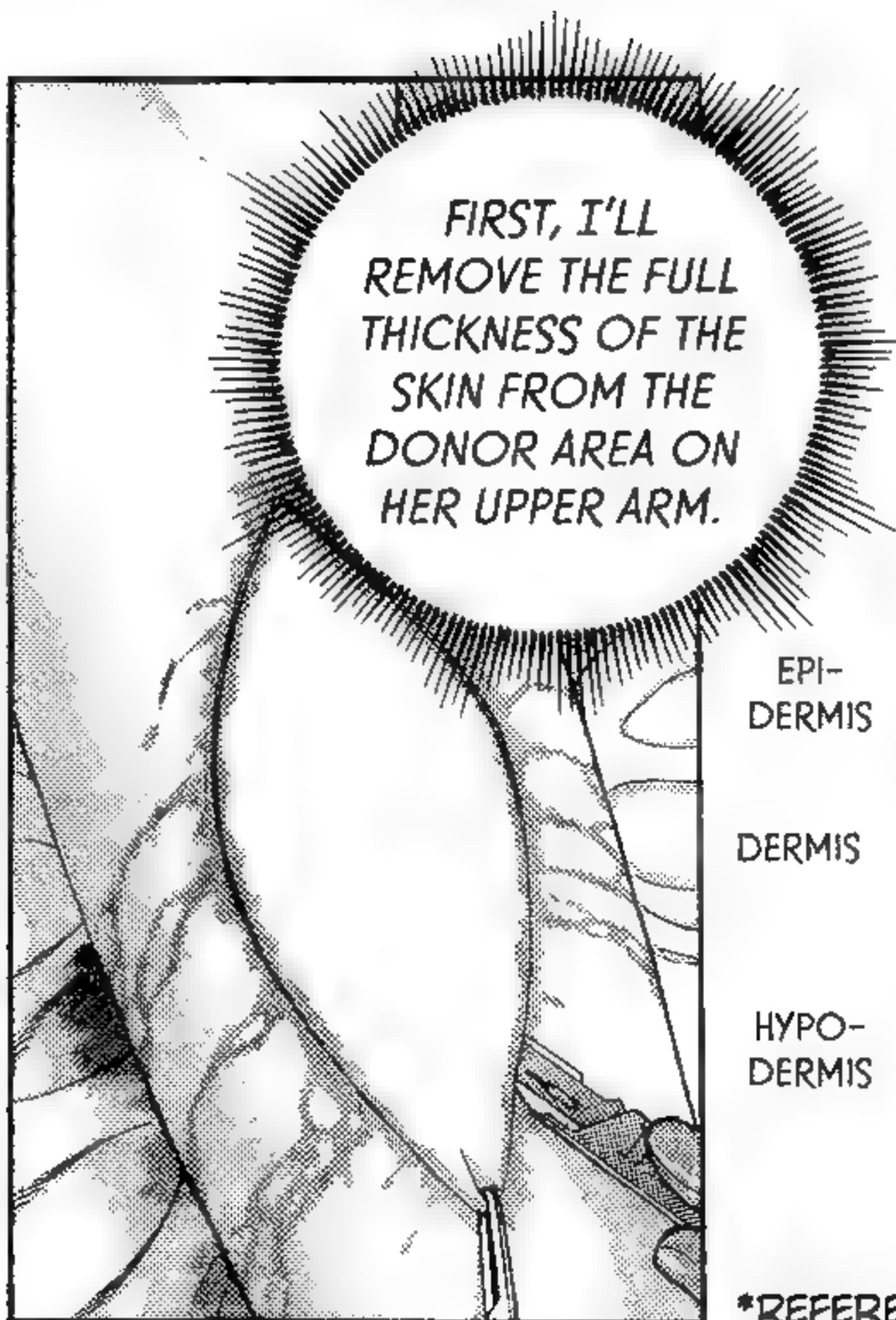
**PROGRESS  
CHAPTER  
PART 2: THE  
PARTING GIFT**

THE  
PENICILLIN  
I PROMISED  
MINAKATA-  
SENSEI...

IT'S ALL  
GOING UP  
IN FLAMES!



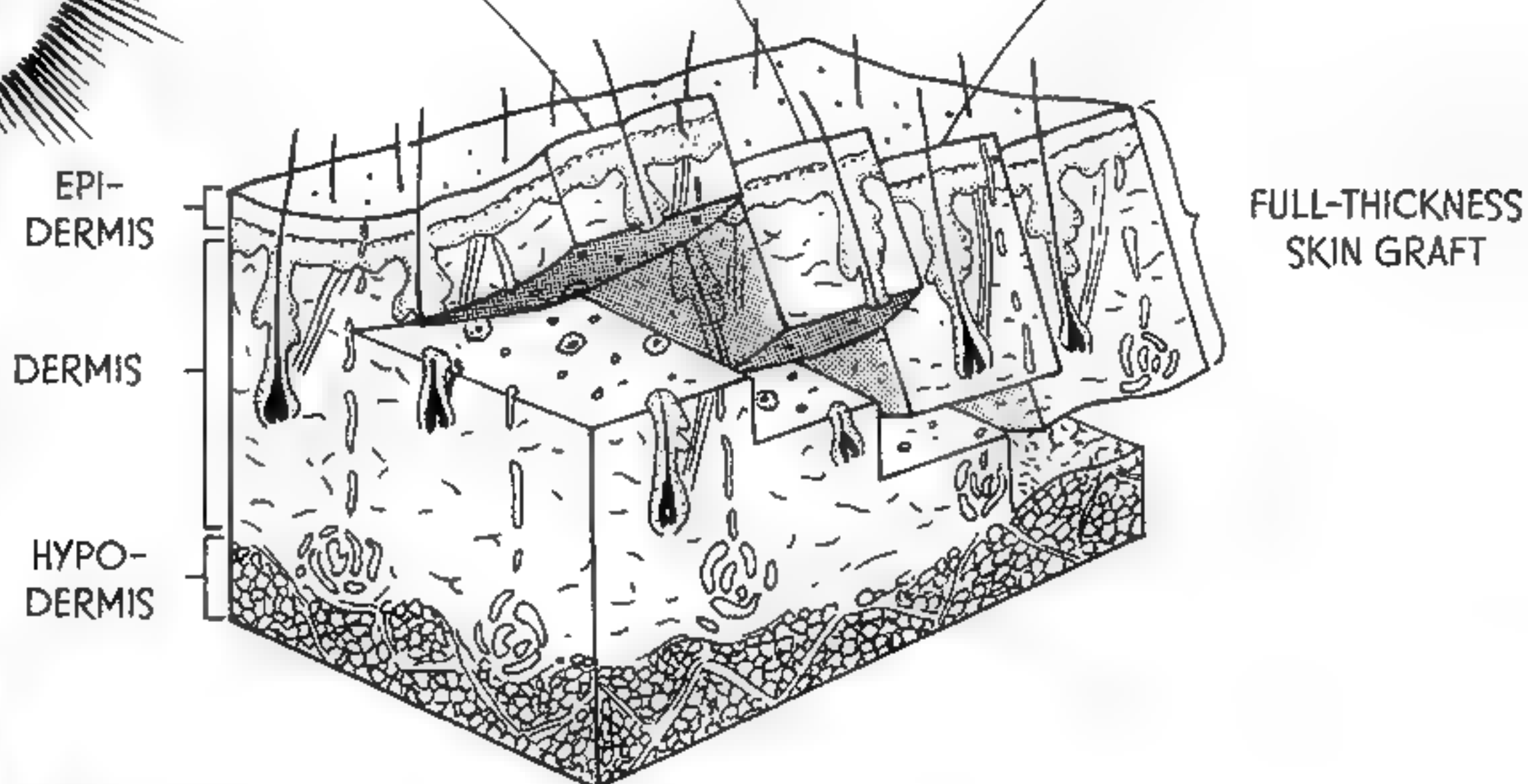




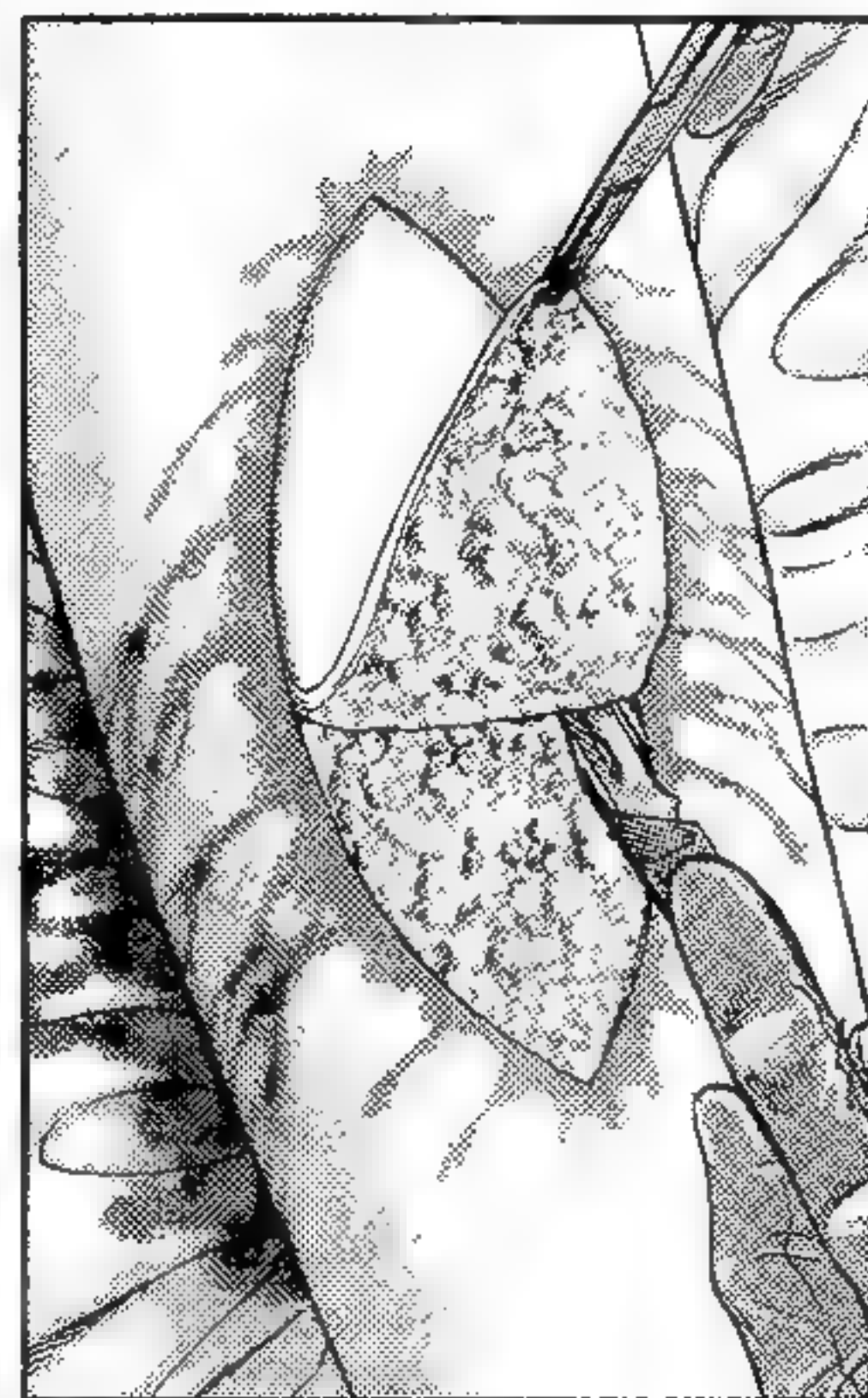
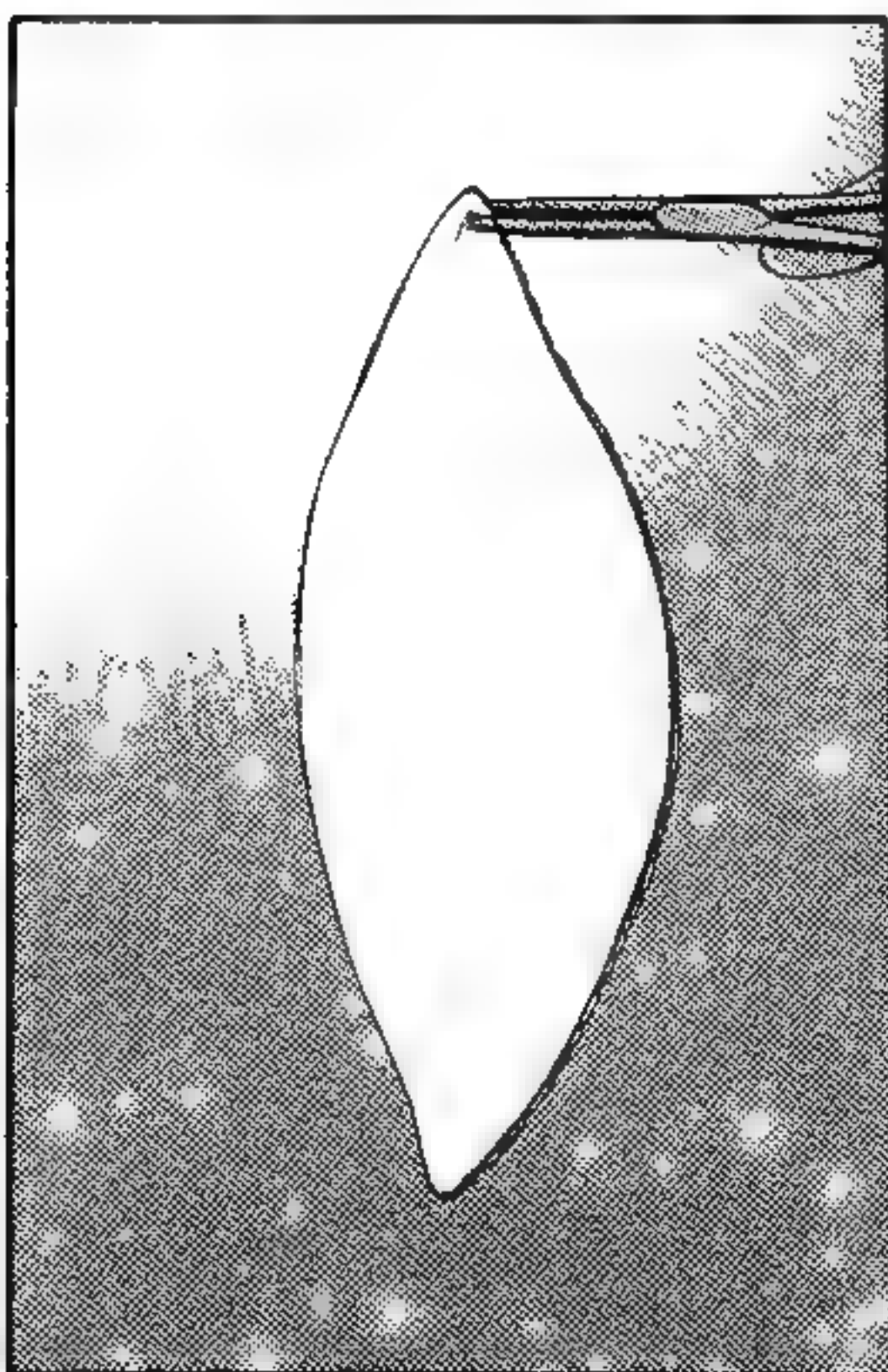
THE THICKNESS AND STRUCTURE OF THE TISSUE TRANSPLANTED

SPLIT-THICKNESS SKIN GRAFT

THIN (5-7/1000 OF AN INCH)      INTERMEDIATE (9-13/1000 OF AN INCH)      THICK (13-15/1000 OF AN INCH)



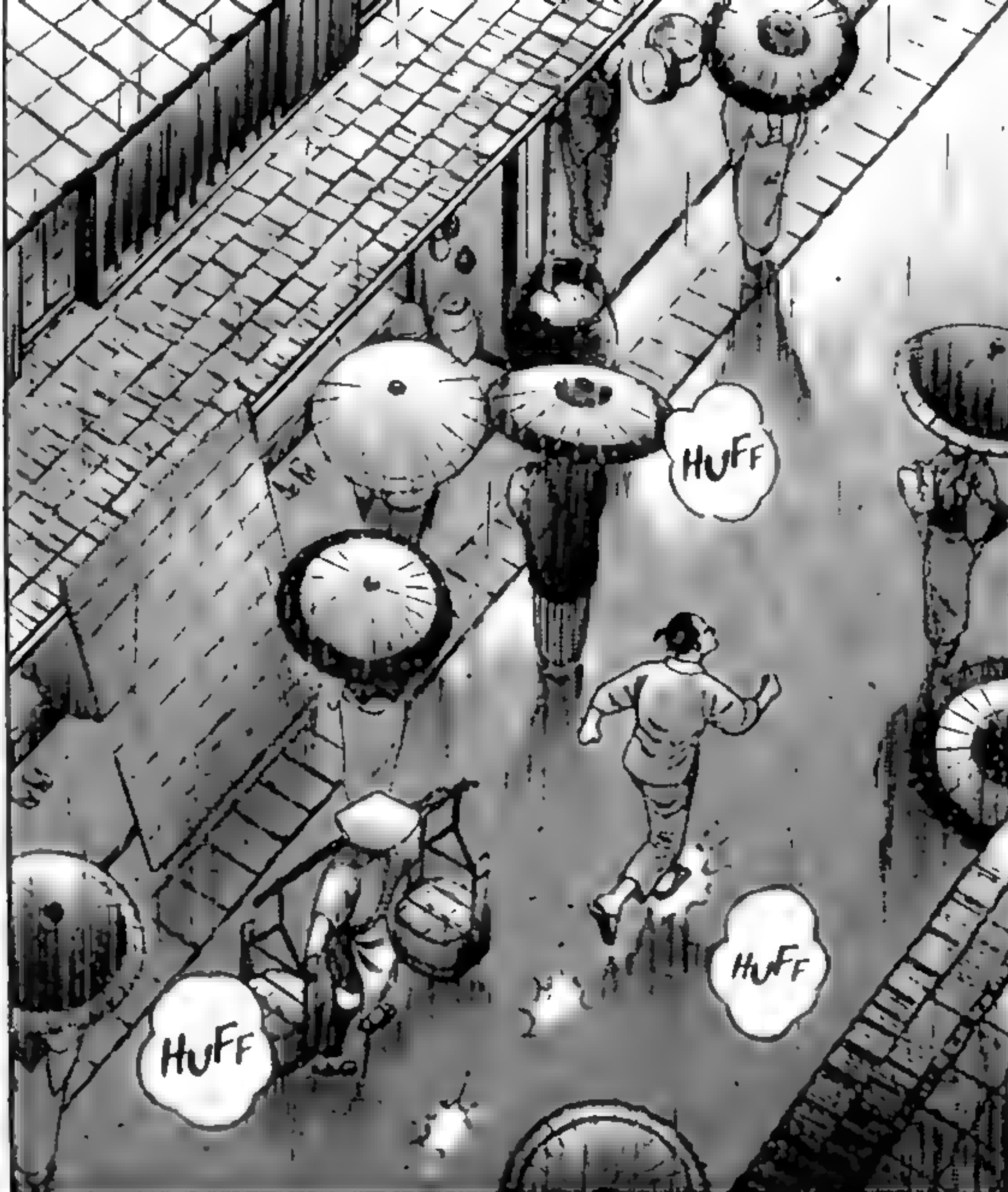
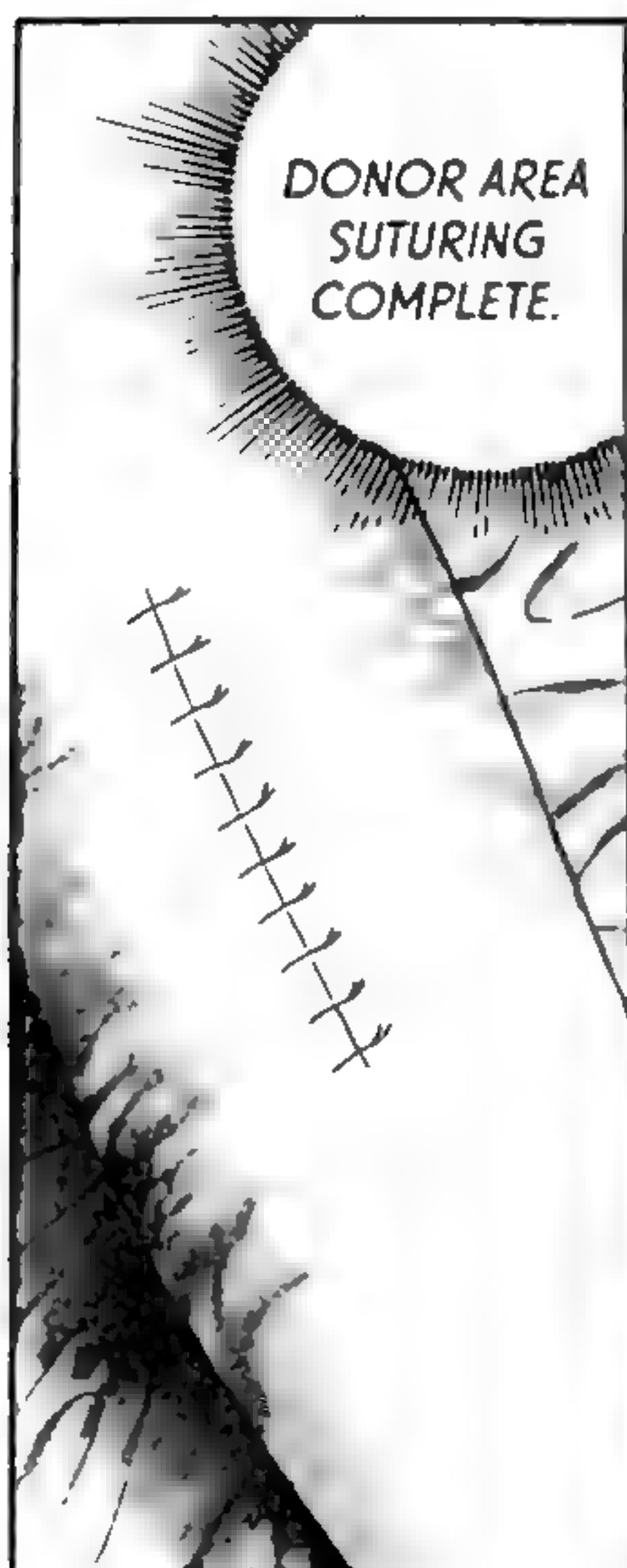
\*REFERENCE / EMERGENCY MEDICINE, SEPTEMBER 2009 (HERLUSI PUBLISHING)



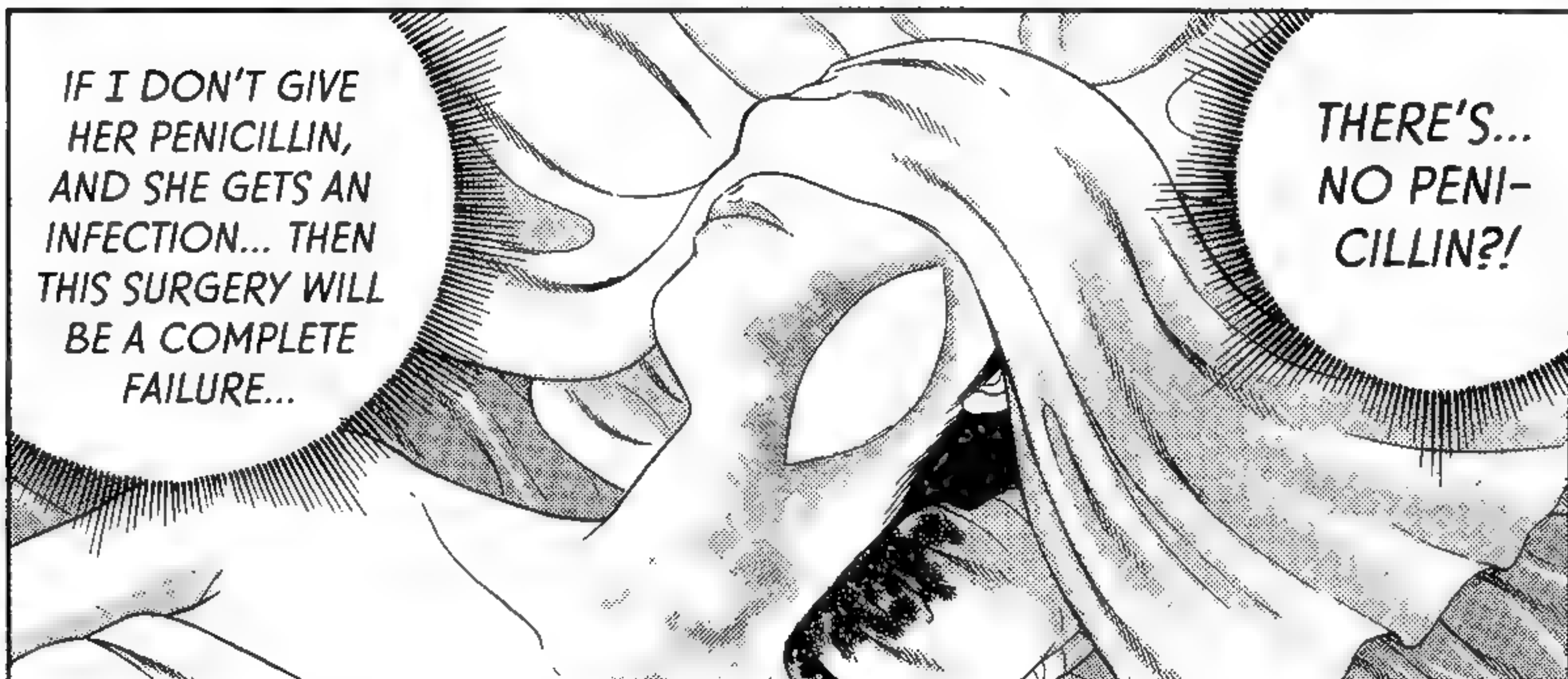
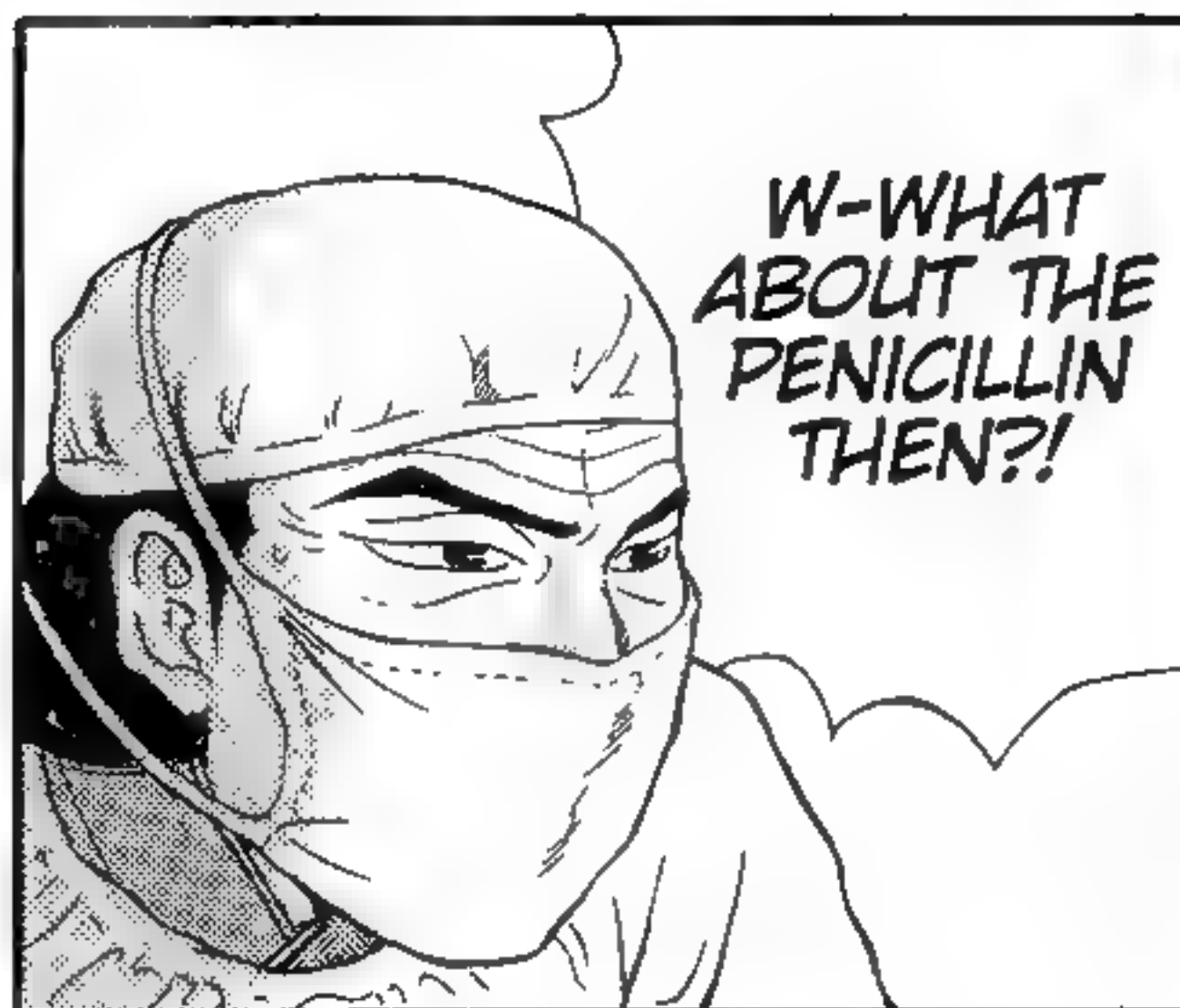




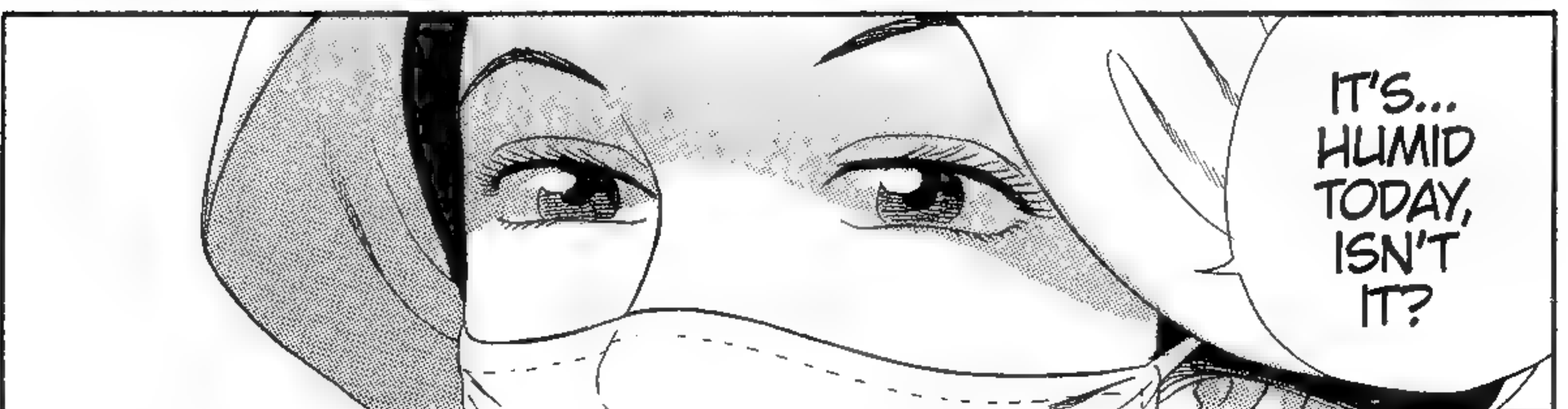
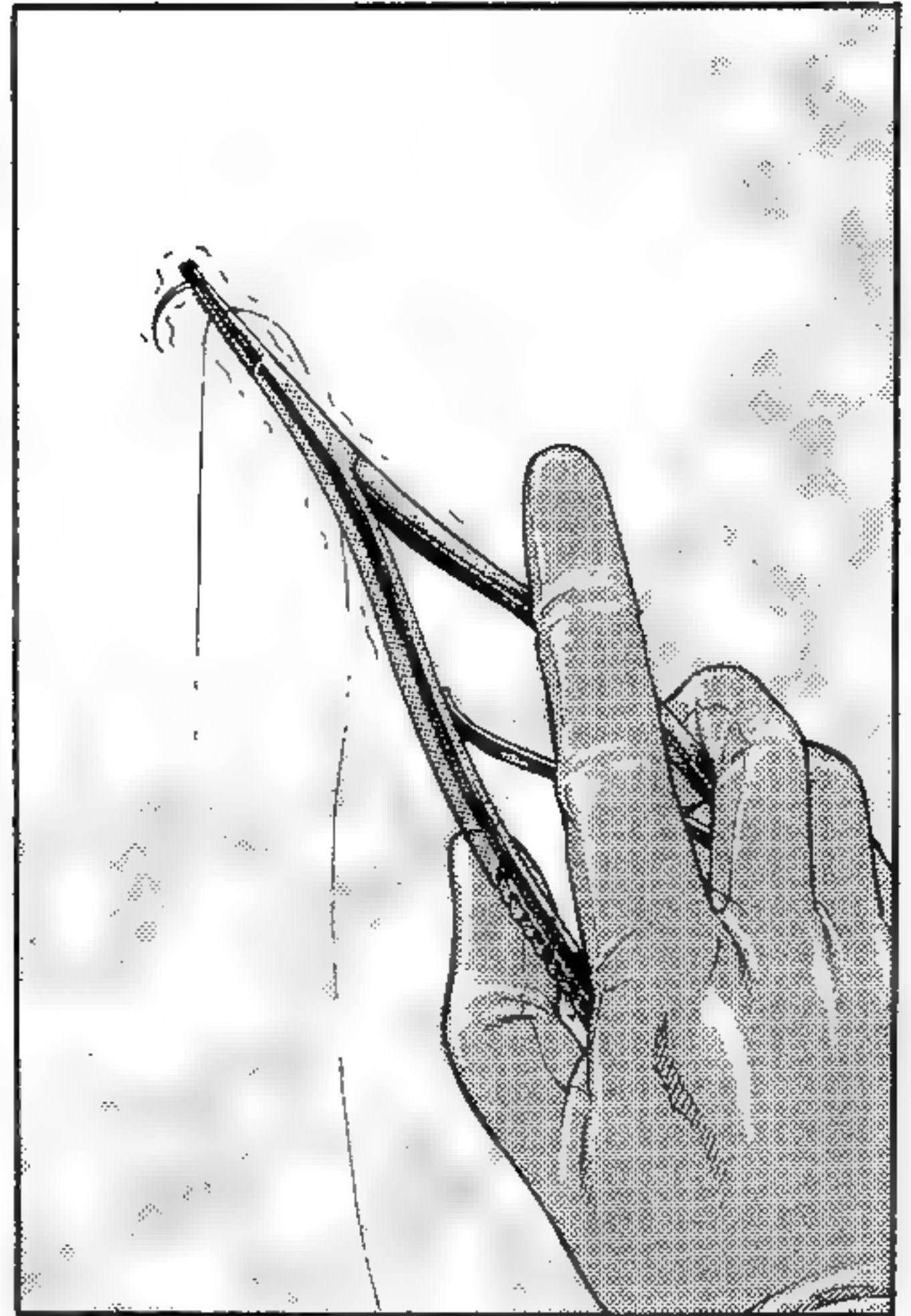
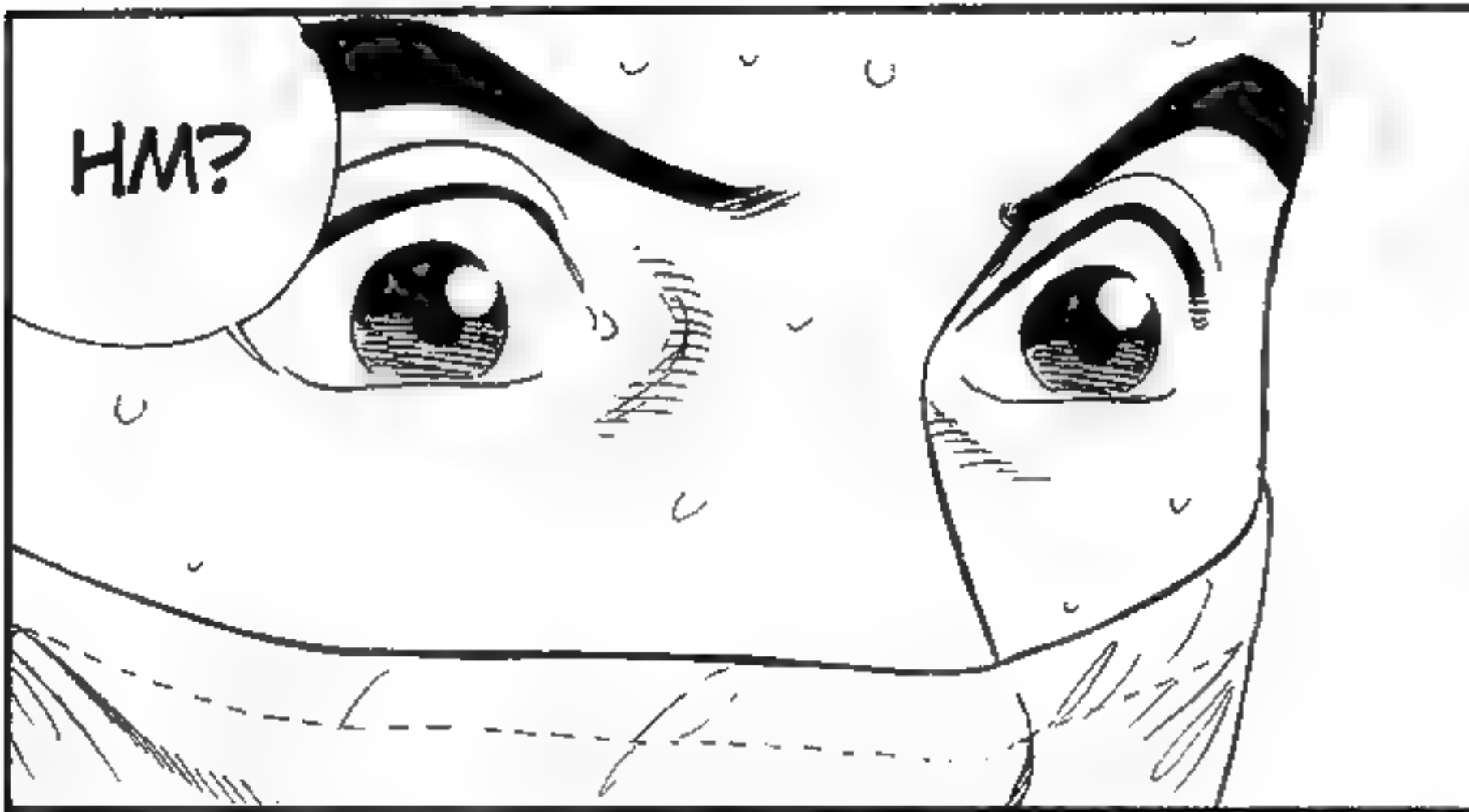












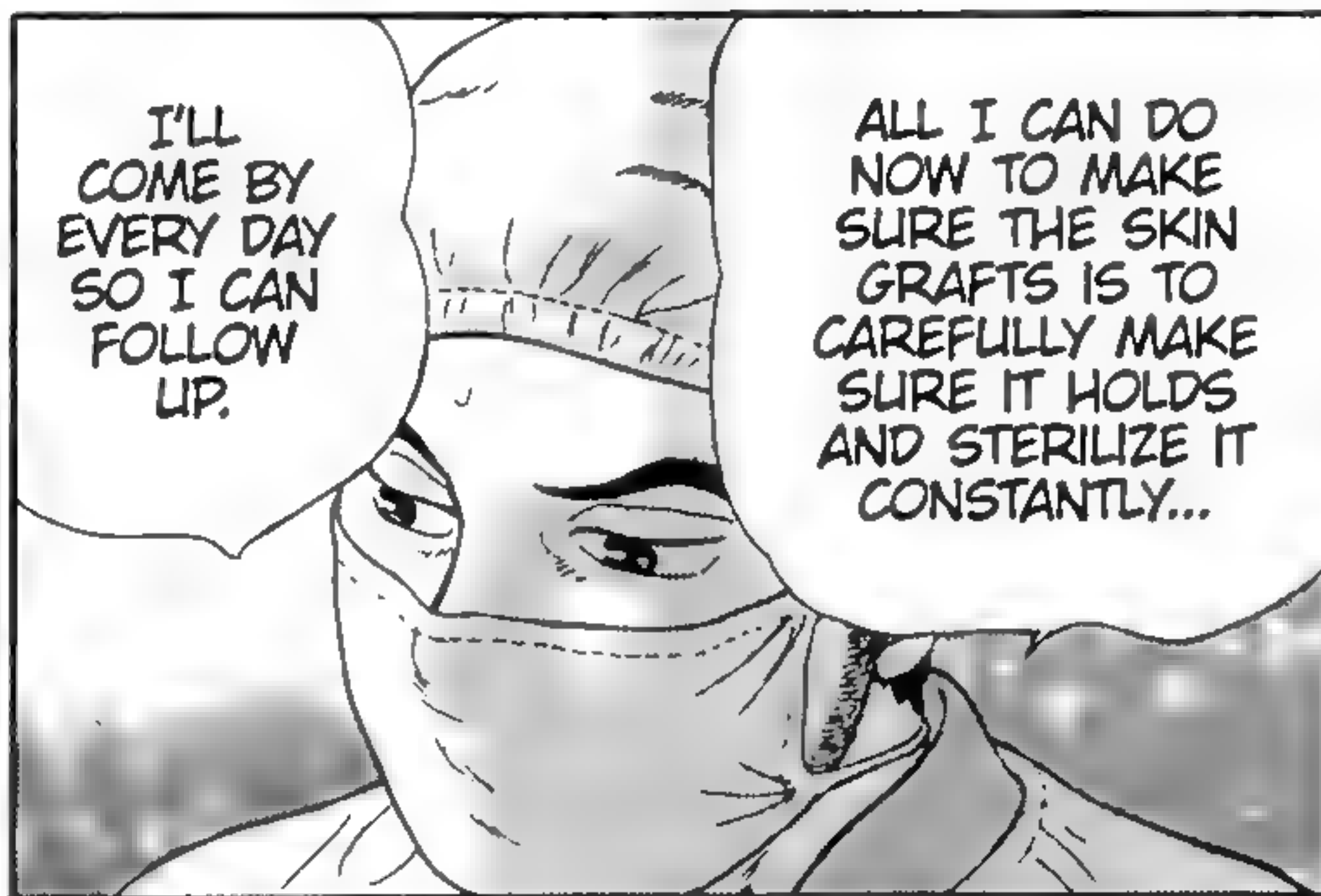
















HAVE YOU  
HEARD THAT  
YAMADA-SENSEI  
DISAPPEARED...?

THE  
MEDICAL  
INSTITUTE



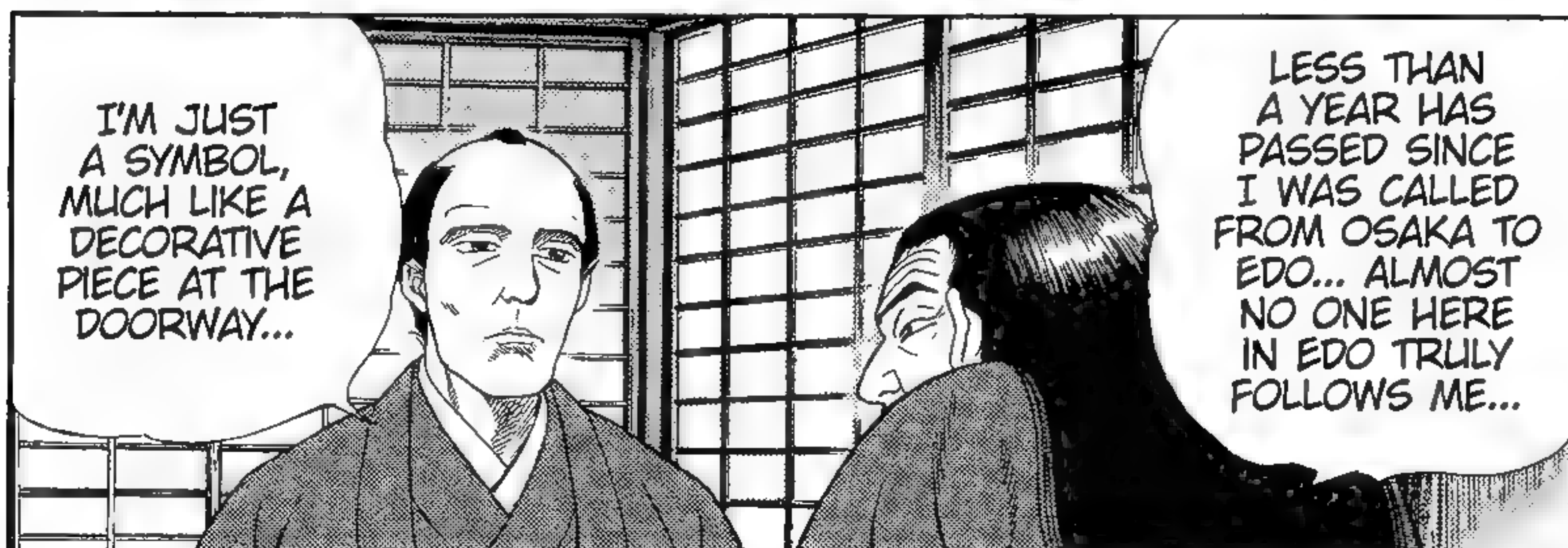
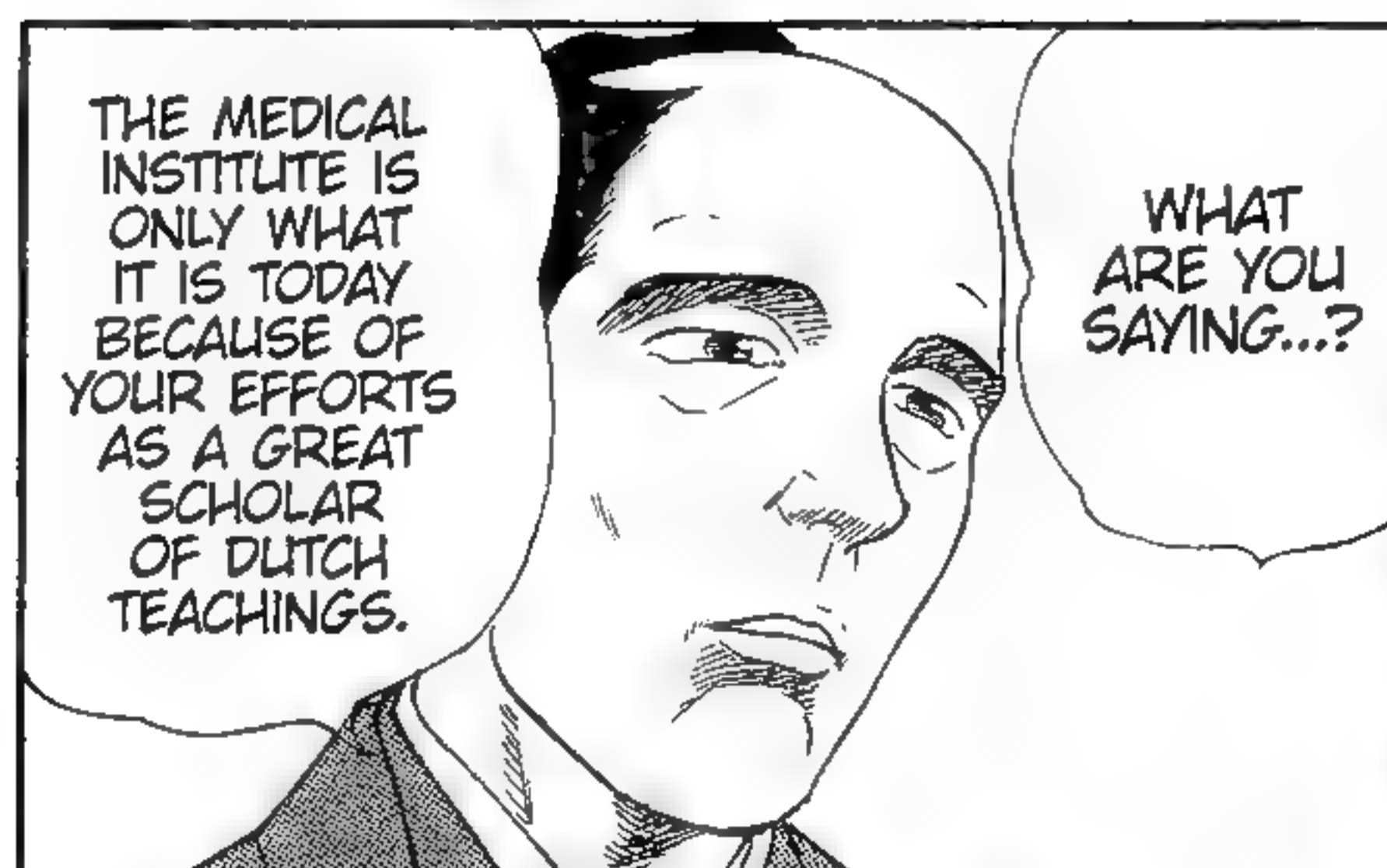
THIS IS  
VERY FISHY.  
THERE'S EVEN  
A RUMOR THAT  
THE FIRE WAS  
NOT ACTUALLY  
AN ACCIDENT  
BUT ARSON.

HE'S NOT GOING  
TO COMMIT SUICIDE  
BECAUSE HE FEELS  
RESPONSIBLE,  
IS HE...?

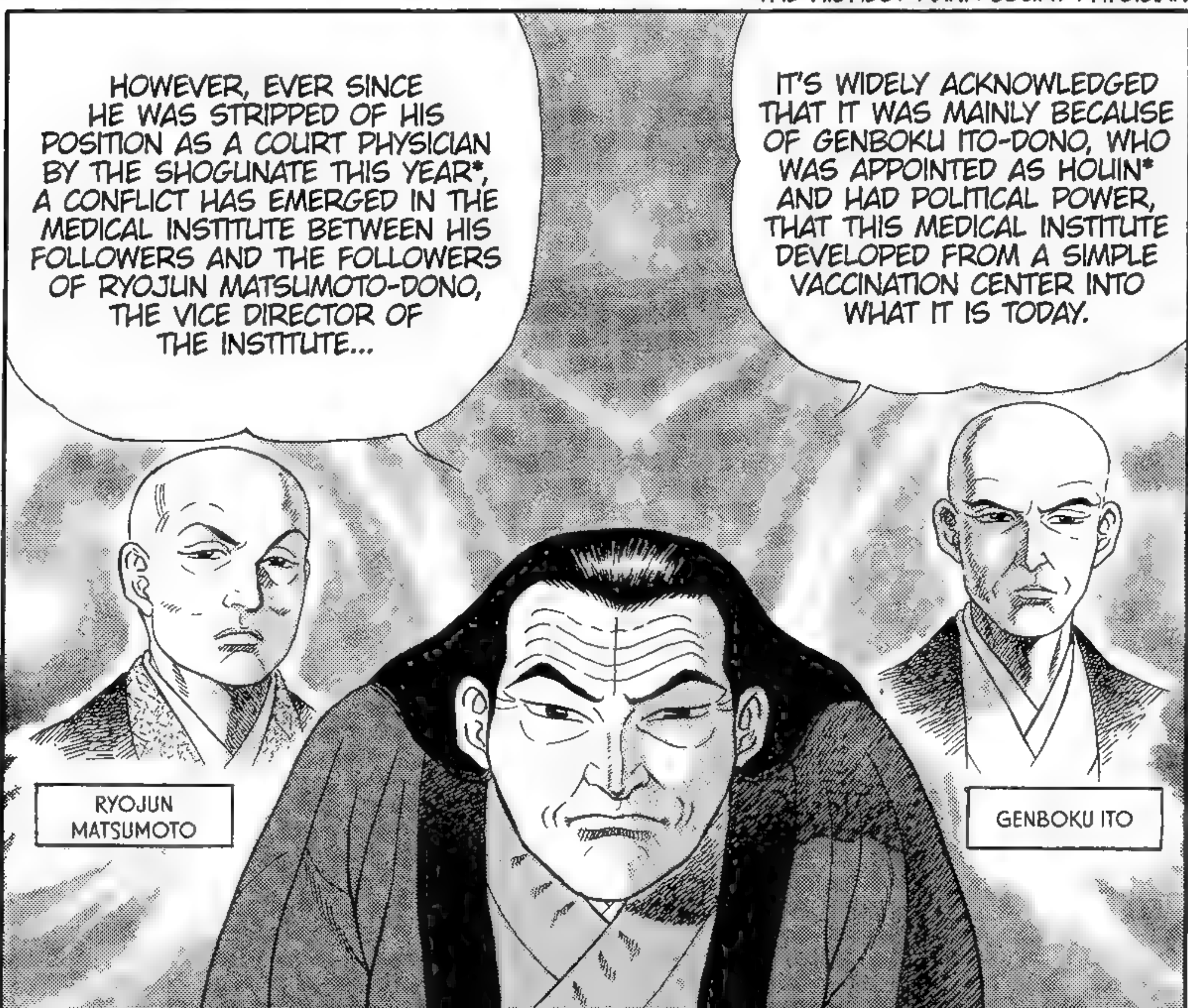


HAMAGUCHI-  
DONO...



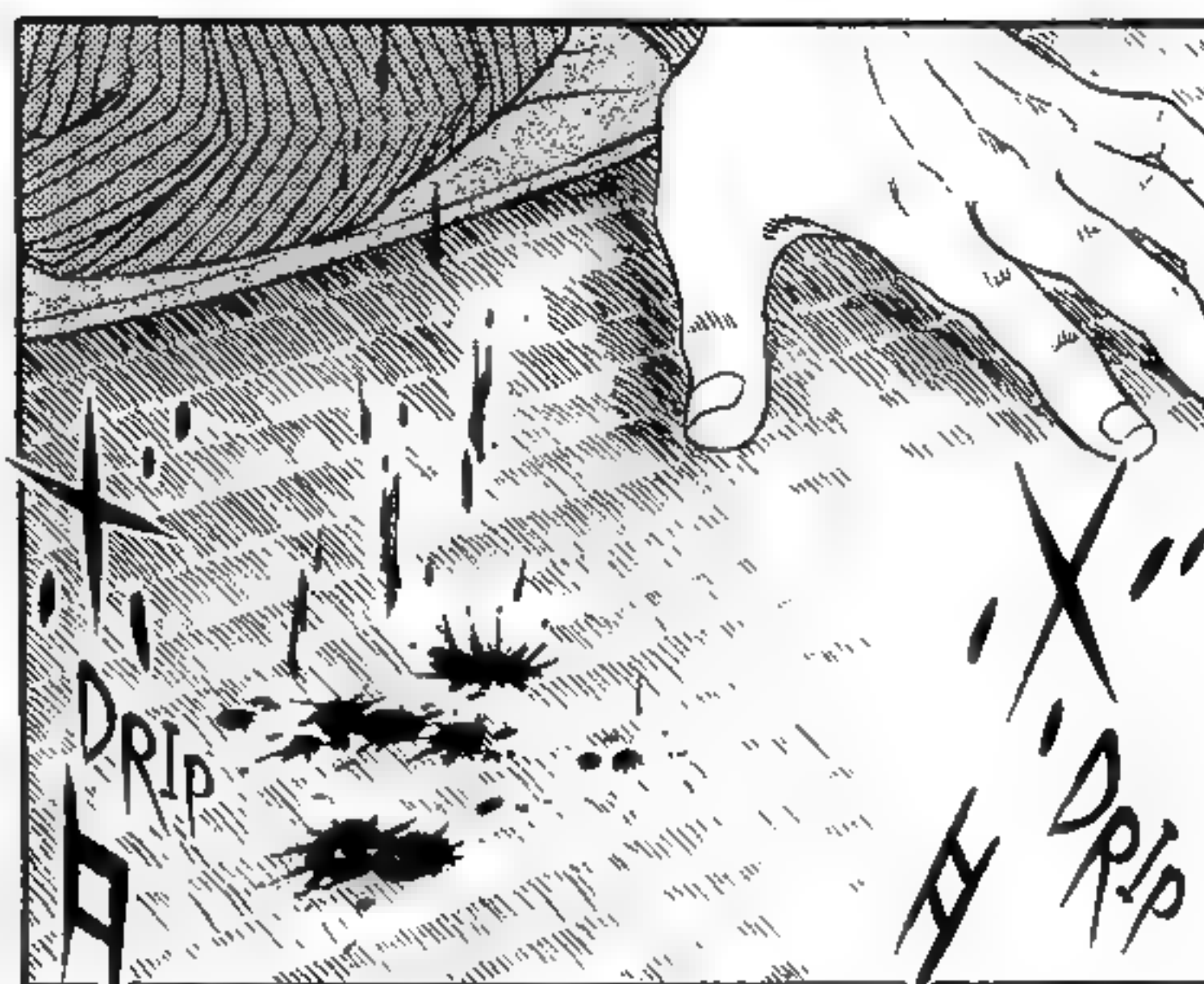
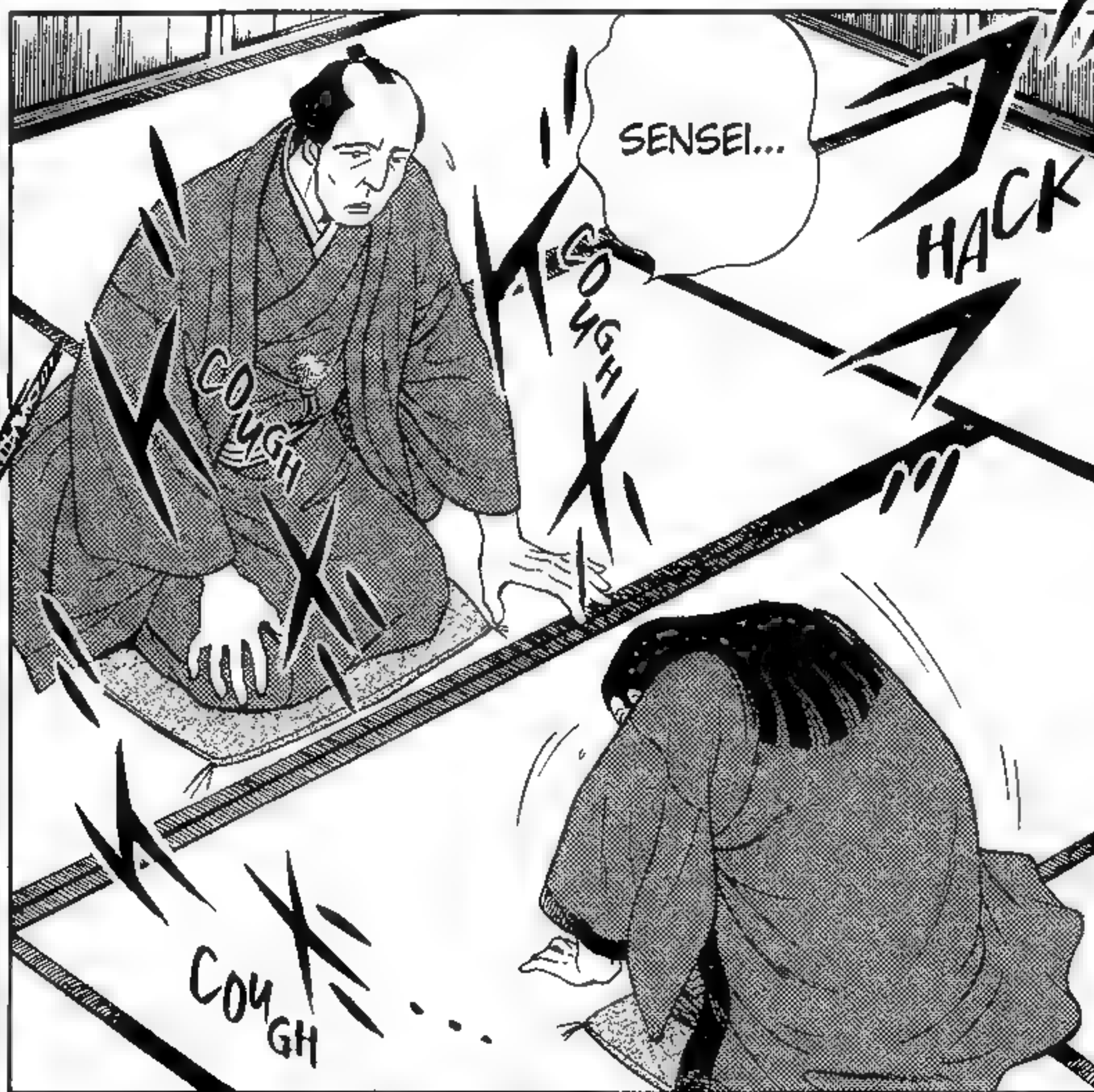
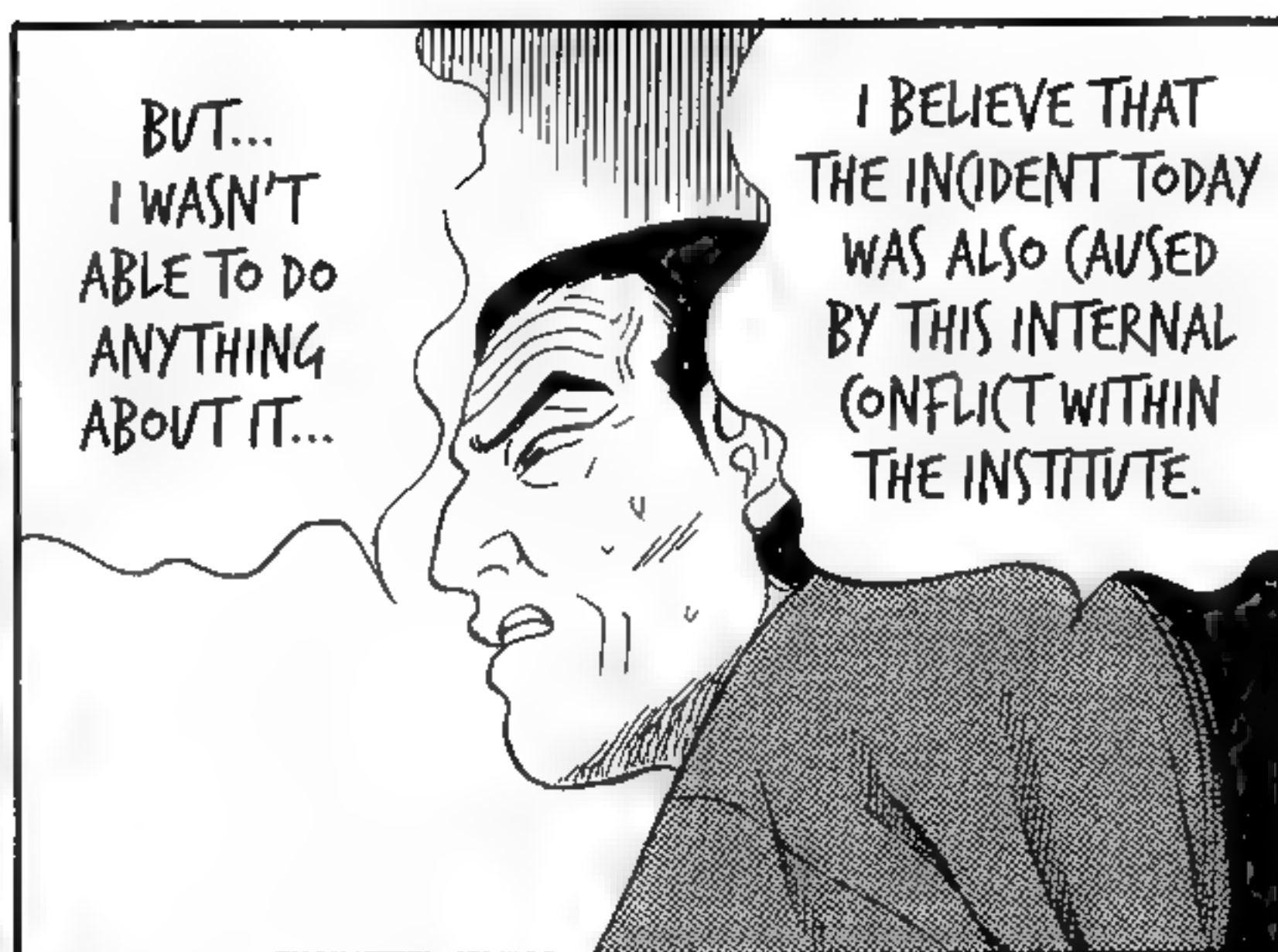


\*THE HIGHEST RANK COURT PHYSICIAN.



\*IN THE FIRST MONTH OF THE THIRD YEAR OF BUNKYU, HE WAS ACCUSED OF FORGING THE CREDIT OF HIS ADOPTED CHILD.





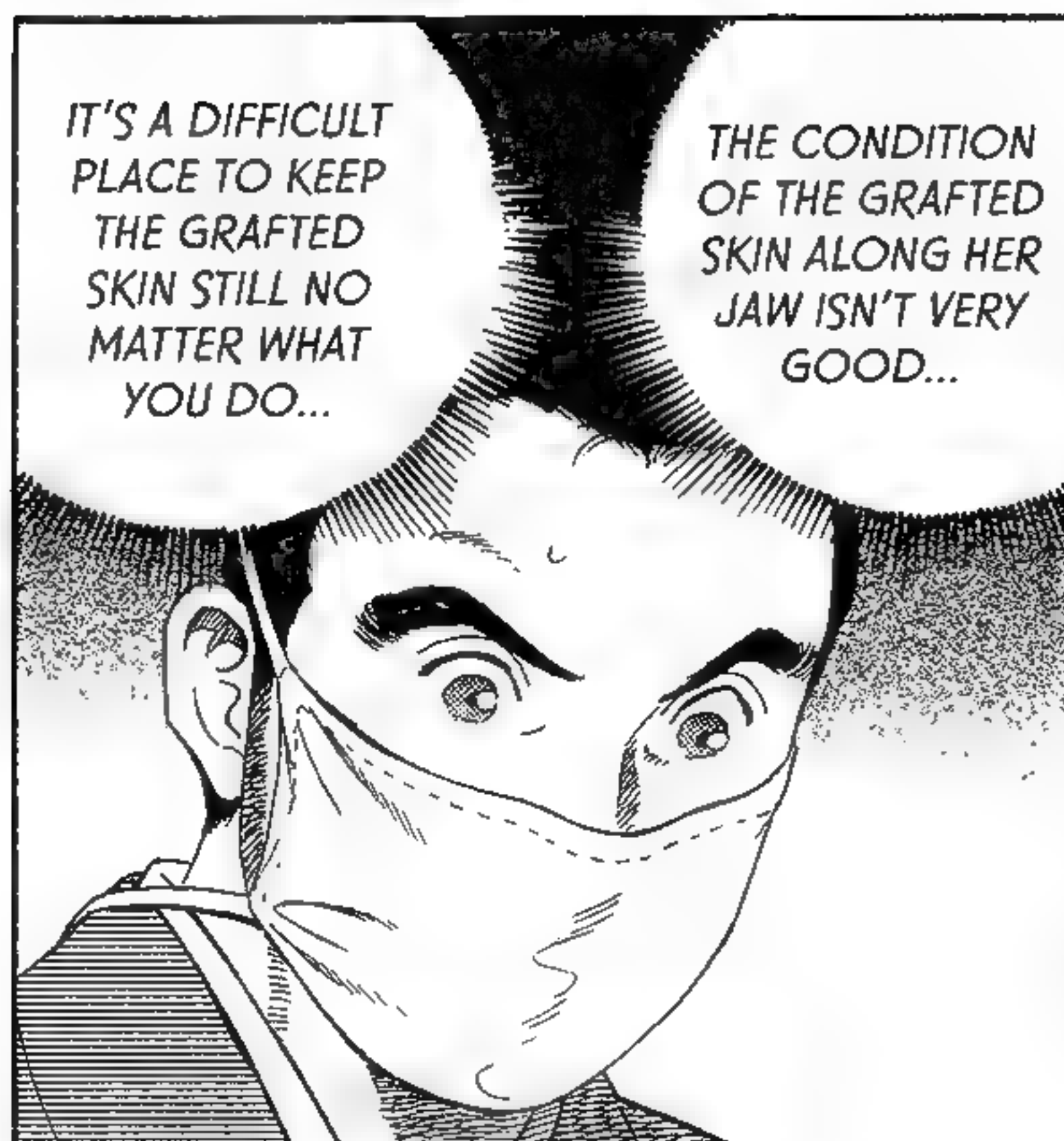










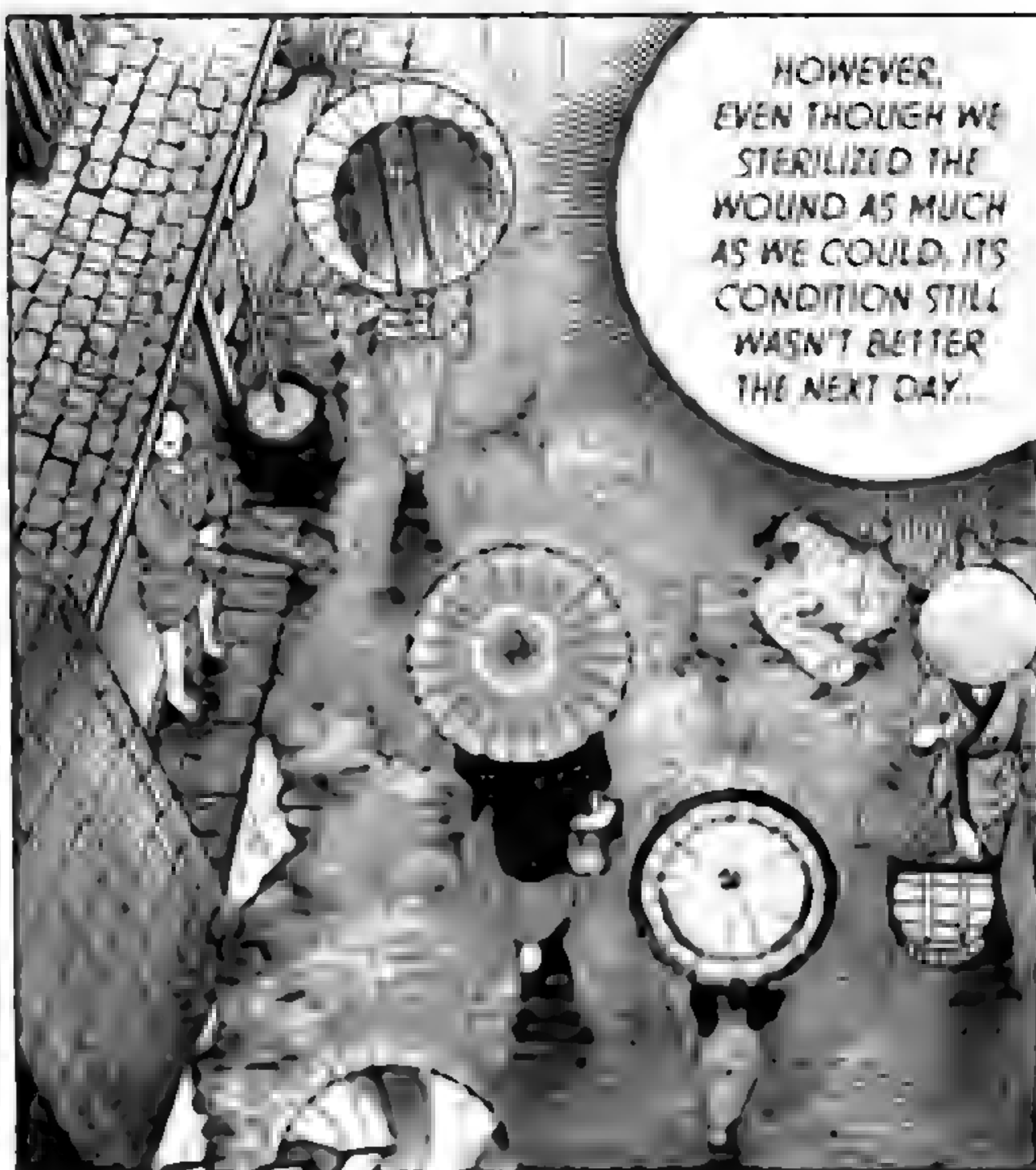






IT'LL BE  
A TOTAL  
FAILURE!

IF SHE  
GETS AN  
INFECTION  
NOW...



HOWEVER,  
EVEN THOUGH WE  
STERILIZED THE  
WOUND AS MUCH  
AS WE COULD, ITS  
CONDITION STILL  
WASN'T BETTER  
THE NEXT DAY...



BANG

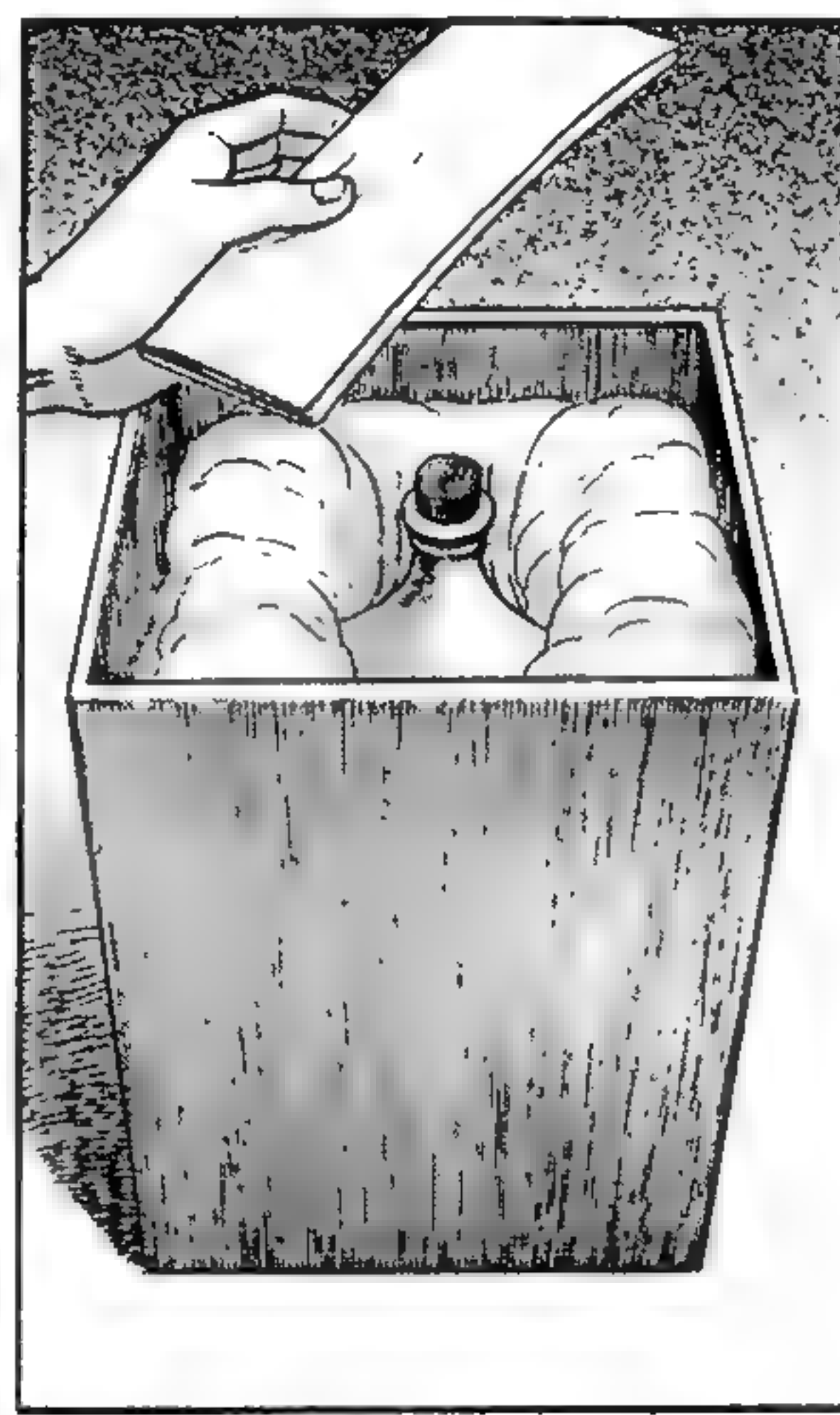
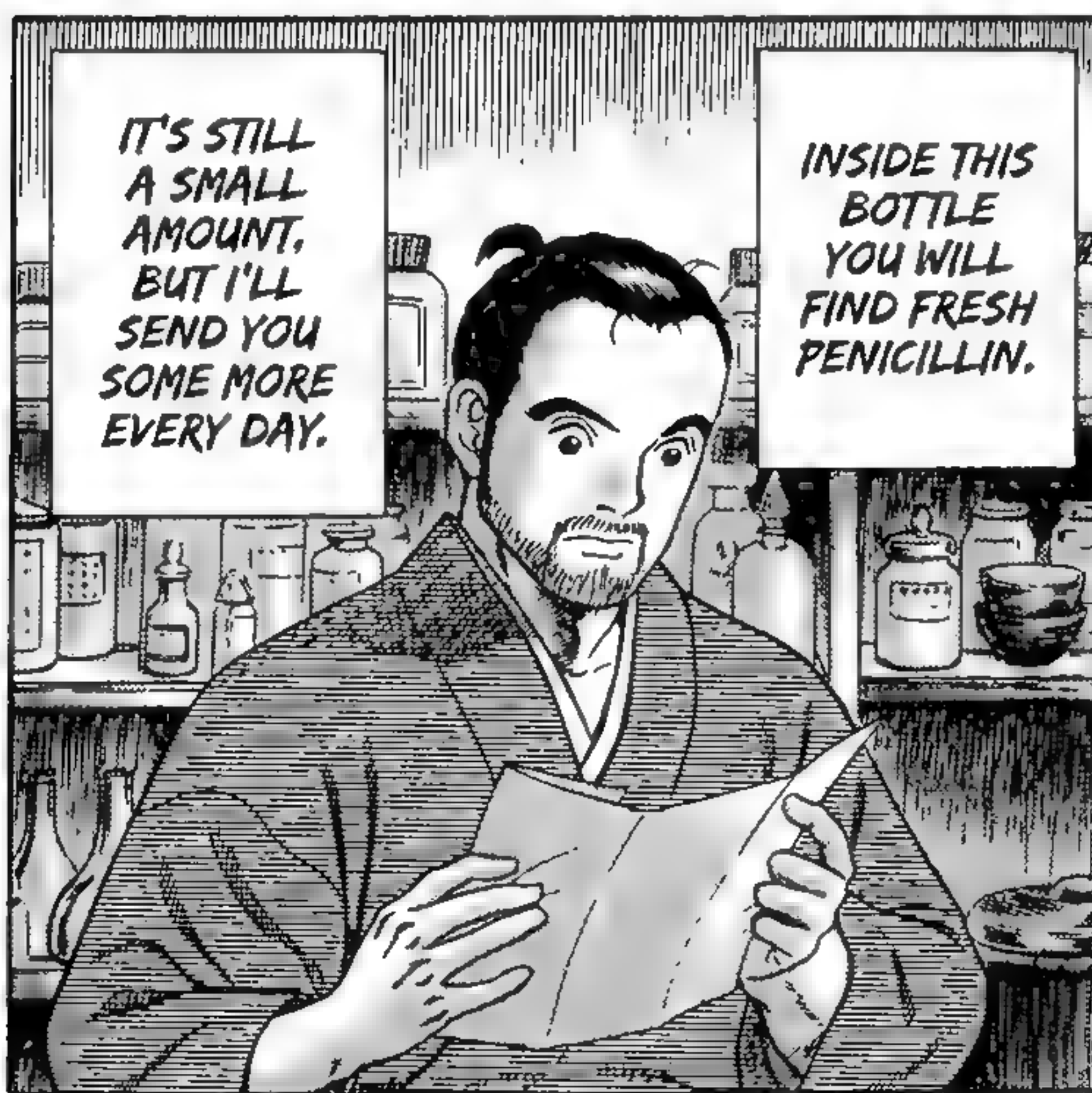
BANG

\*JIN'S CLING

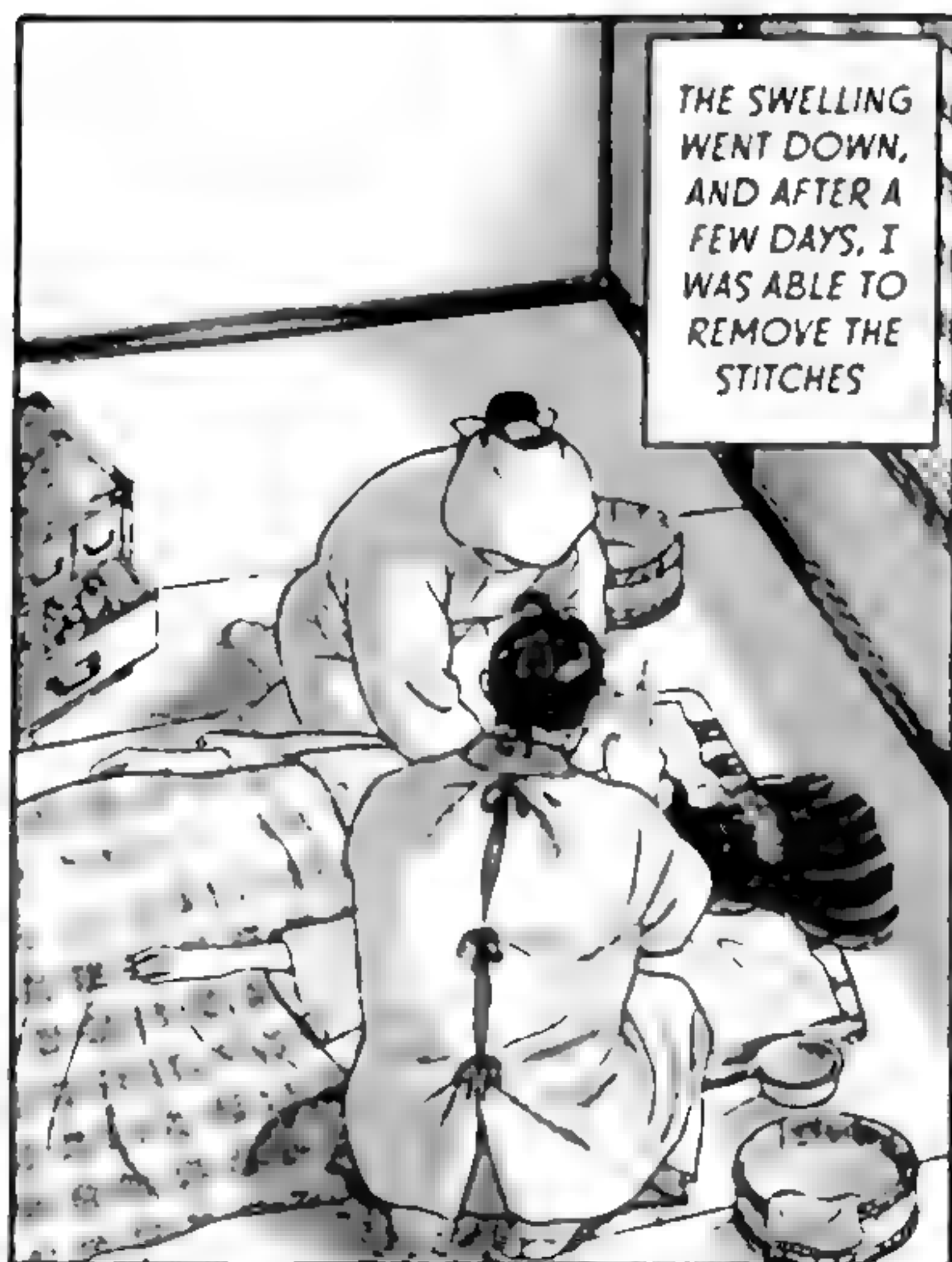


EARLY  
THE NEXT  
MORNING









THE SWELLING  
WENT DOWN,  
AND AFTER A  
FEW DAYS, I  
WAS ABLE TO  
REMOVE THE  
STITCHES



I CONTINUED  
TO ADMINISTER  
THE PENICILLIN  
AND STERILIZE  
THE WOUND  
FOR A WHILE

IN THE MEANTIME,  
A NEW DELIVERY  
OF PENICILLIN  
WOULD ARRIVE  
EVERY MORNING



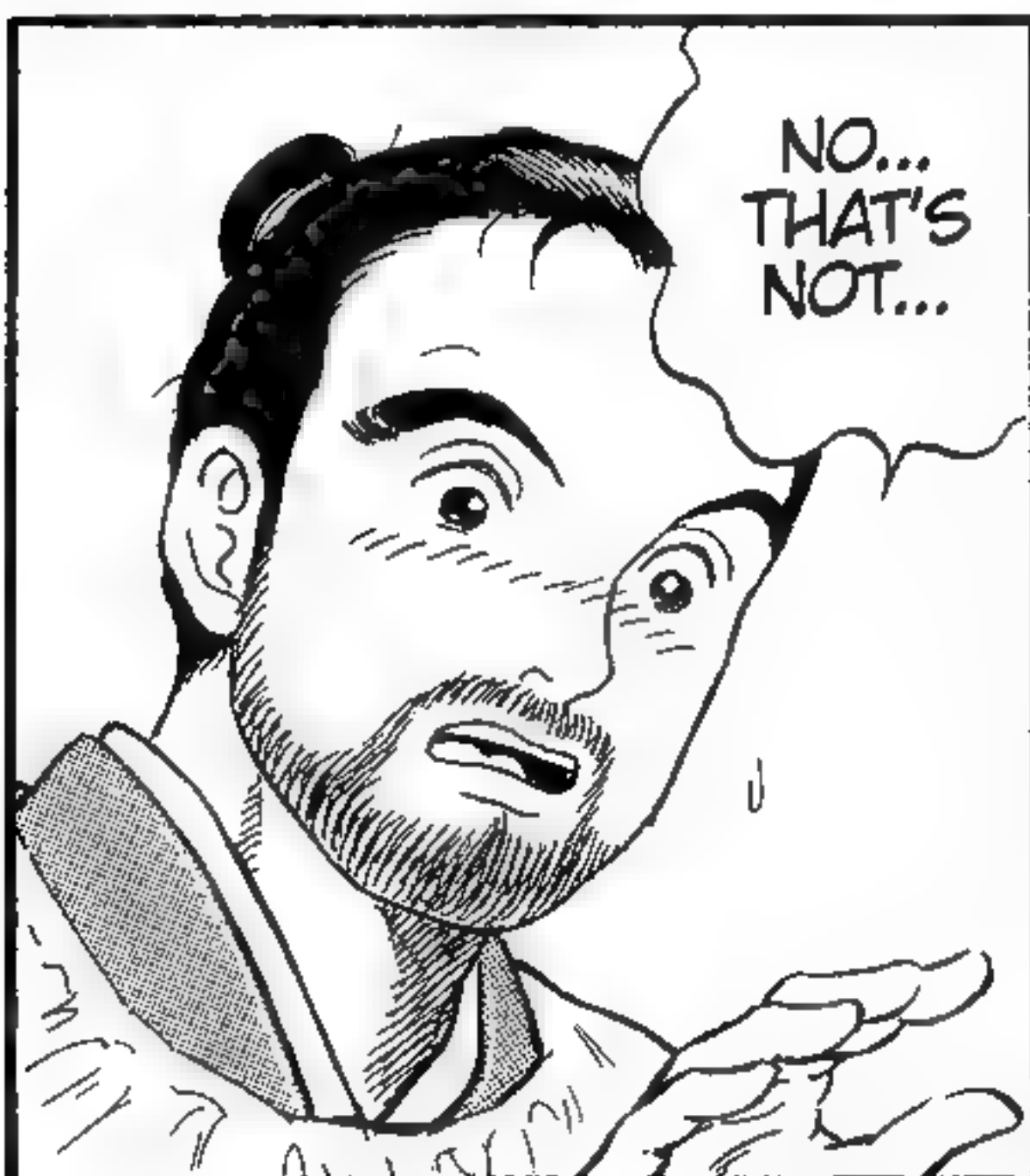
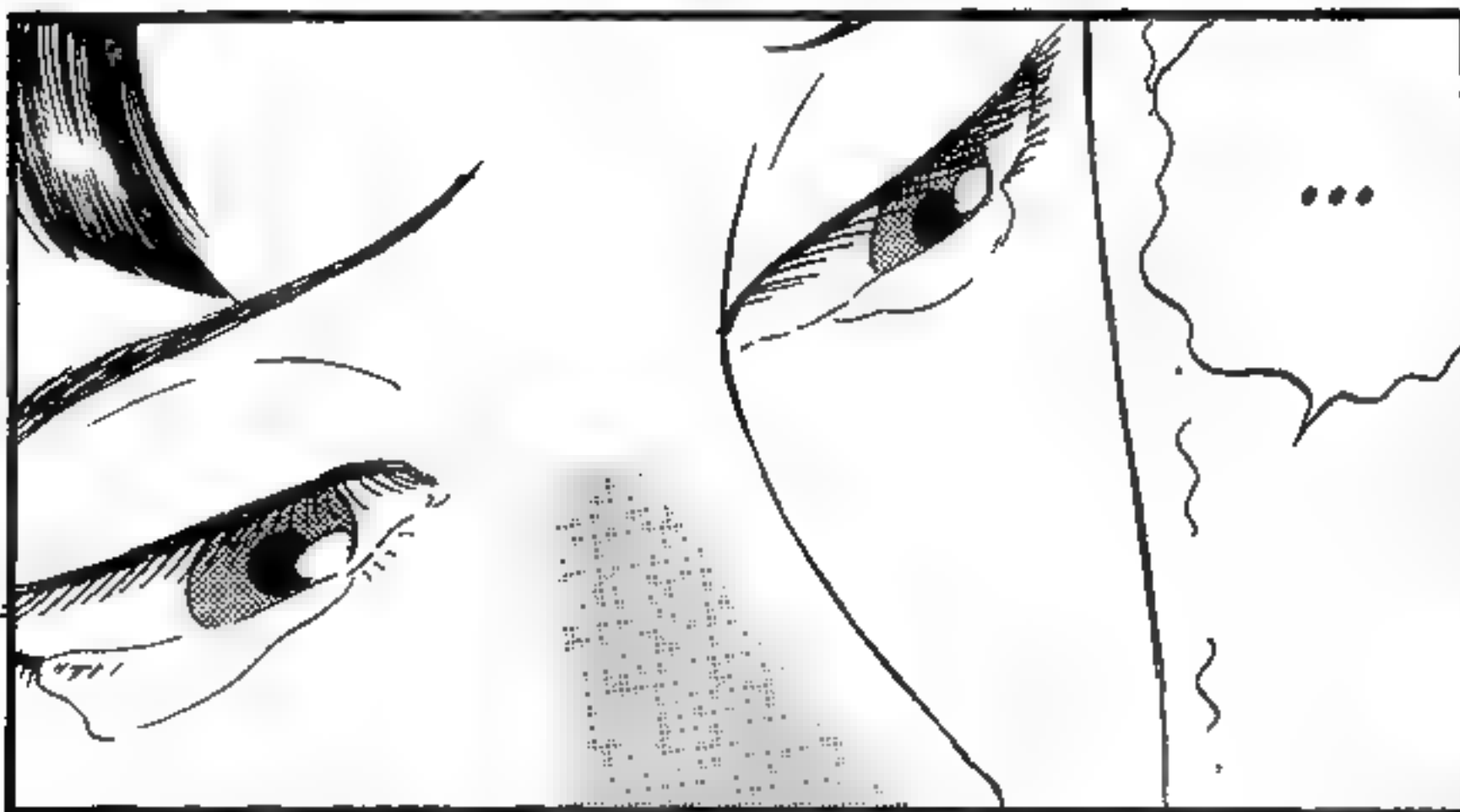
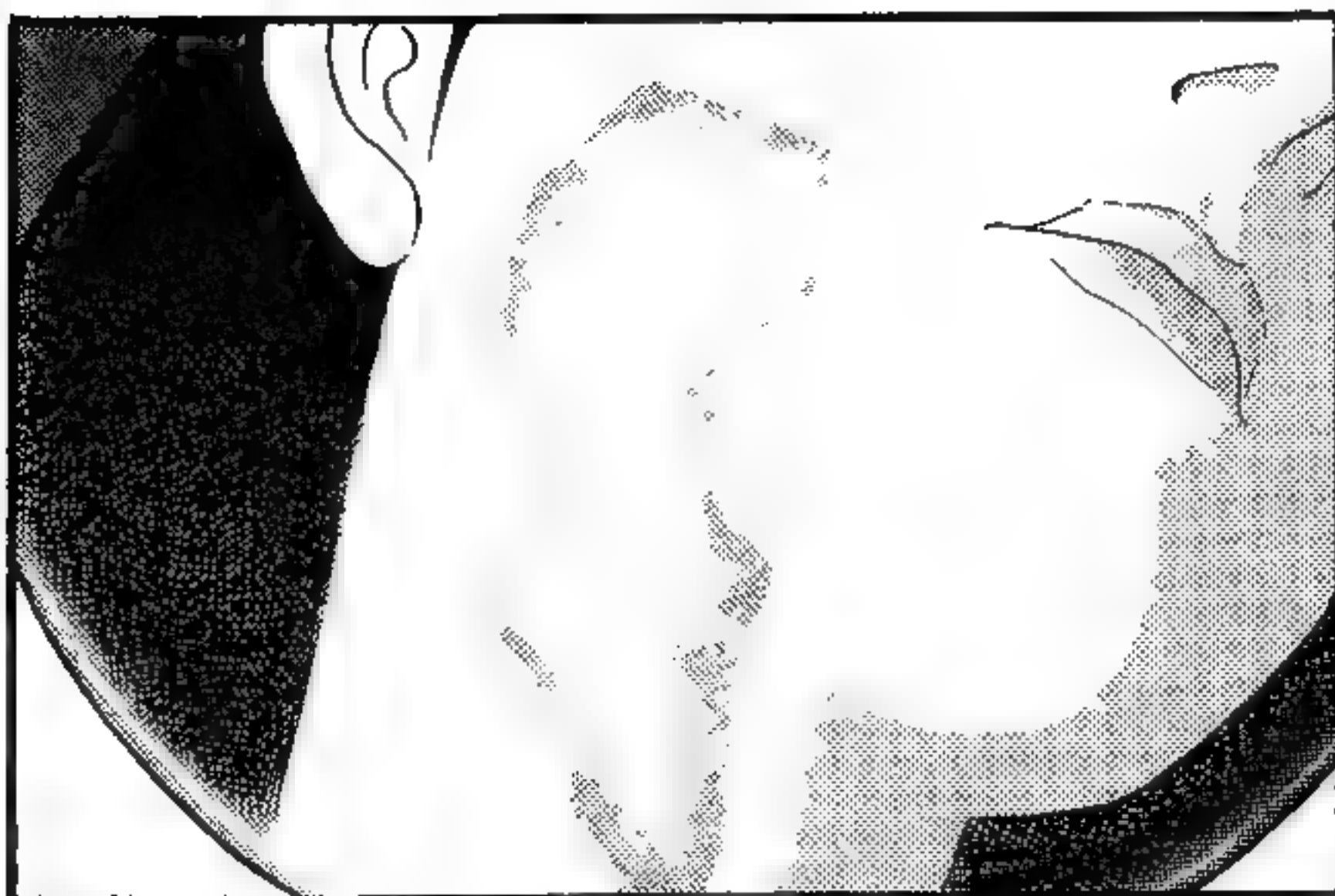
THE EFFECT  
OF THE  
PENICILLIN  
APPEARED  
IMMEDIATELY.



THE END  
OF THE  
FIFTH  
MONTH





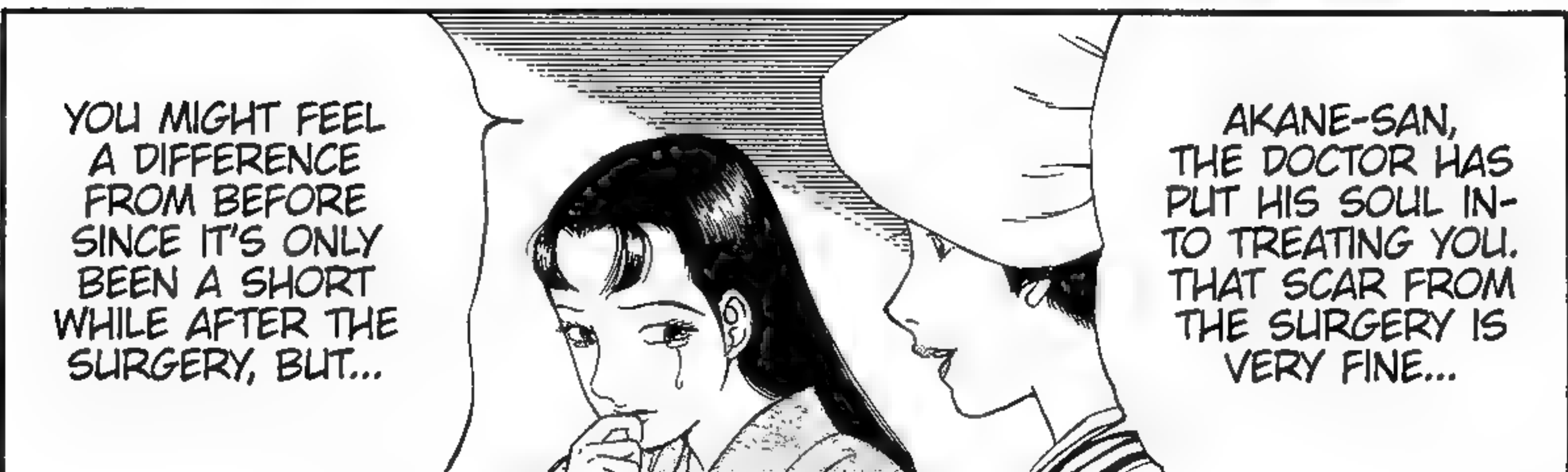


NO...  
THAT'S  
NOT...



I CAN'T  
REPRESENT  
THE SHOP  
LIKE THIS...

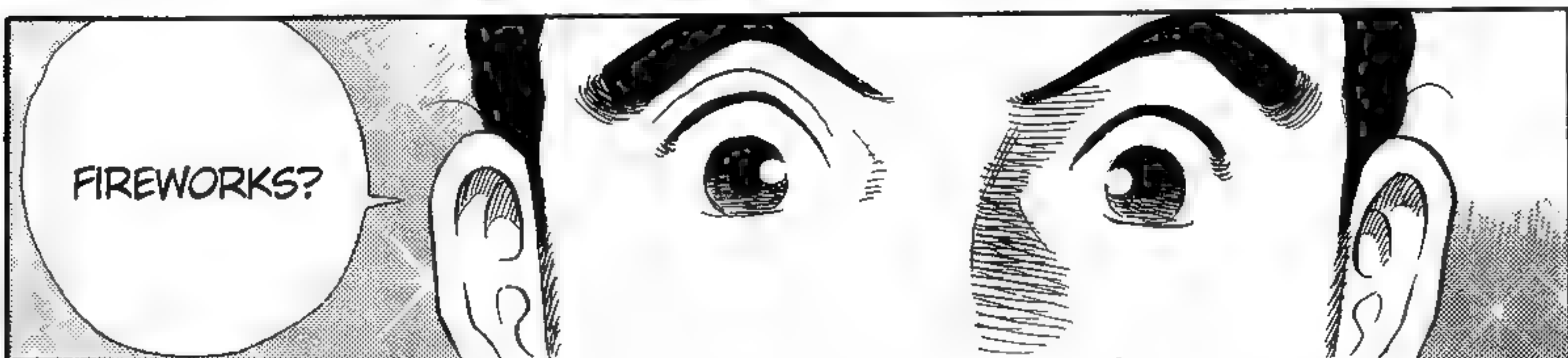
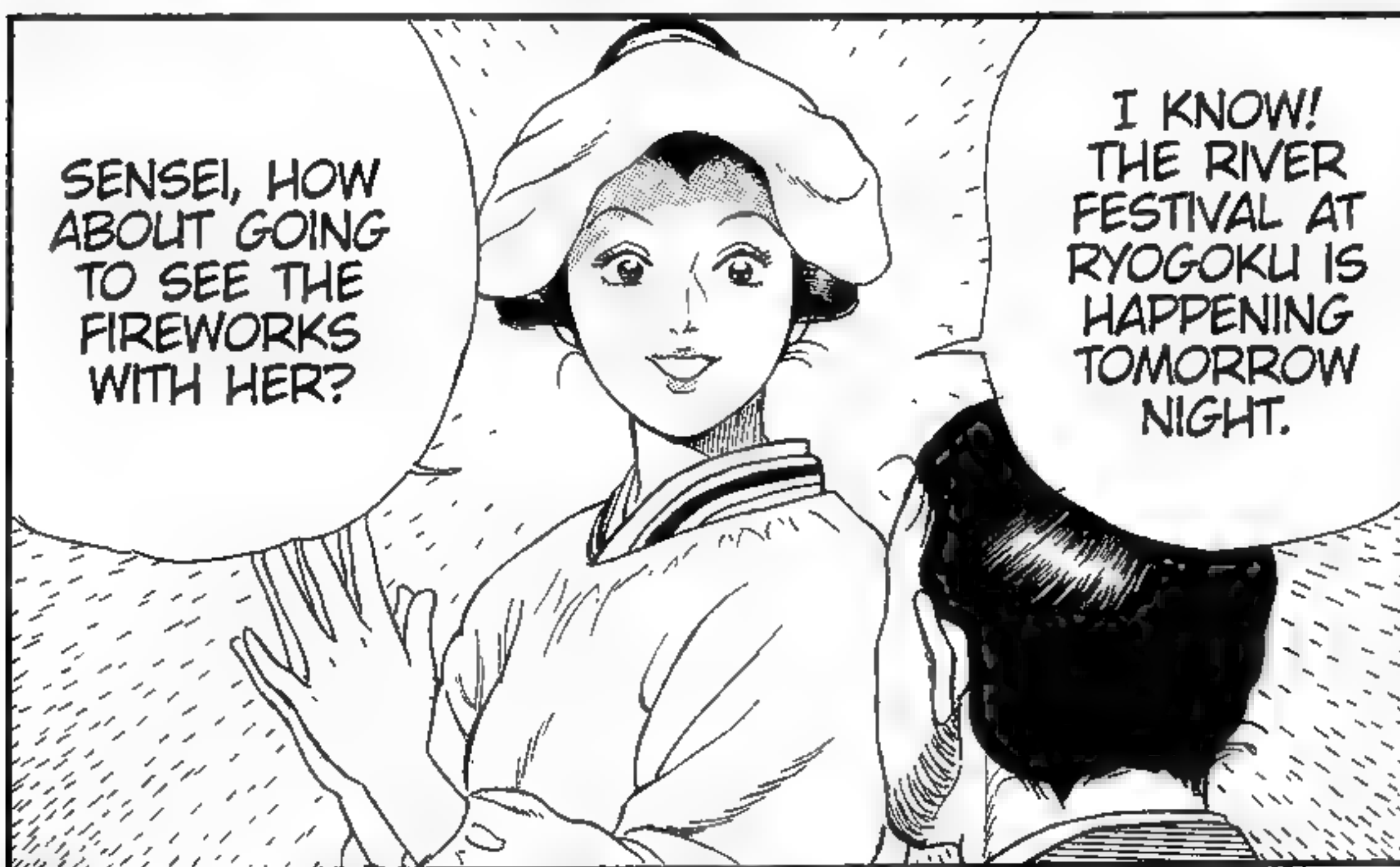
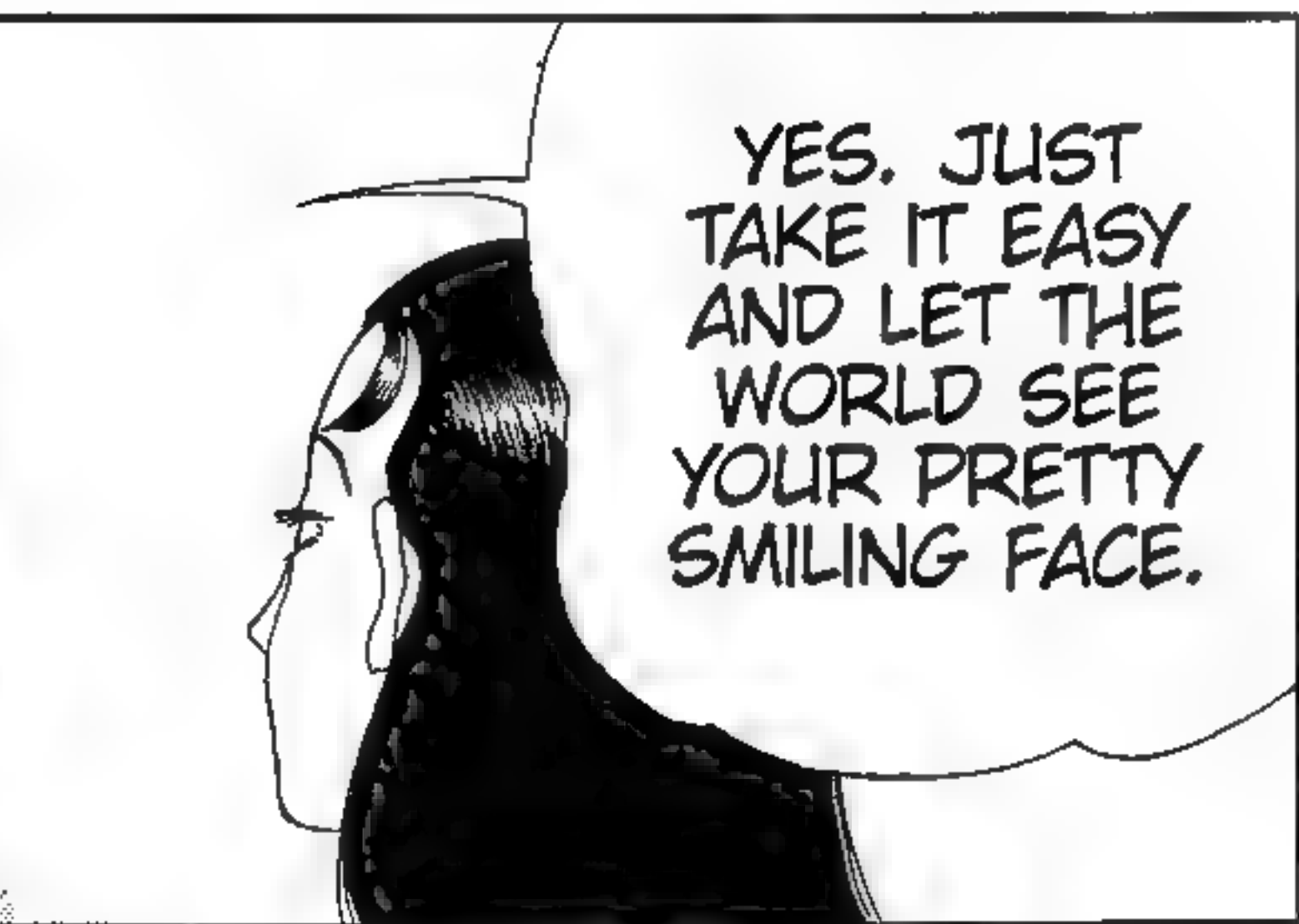
I'M SO SORRY, SENSEI...  
I'LL FIND SOME WAY  
TO PAY THE SURGERY  
FEE OF 2 RYO EVEN  
IF I HAVE TO SERVE  
UNDER SOMEONE  
SOMEWHERE.



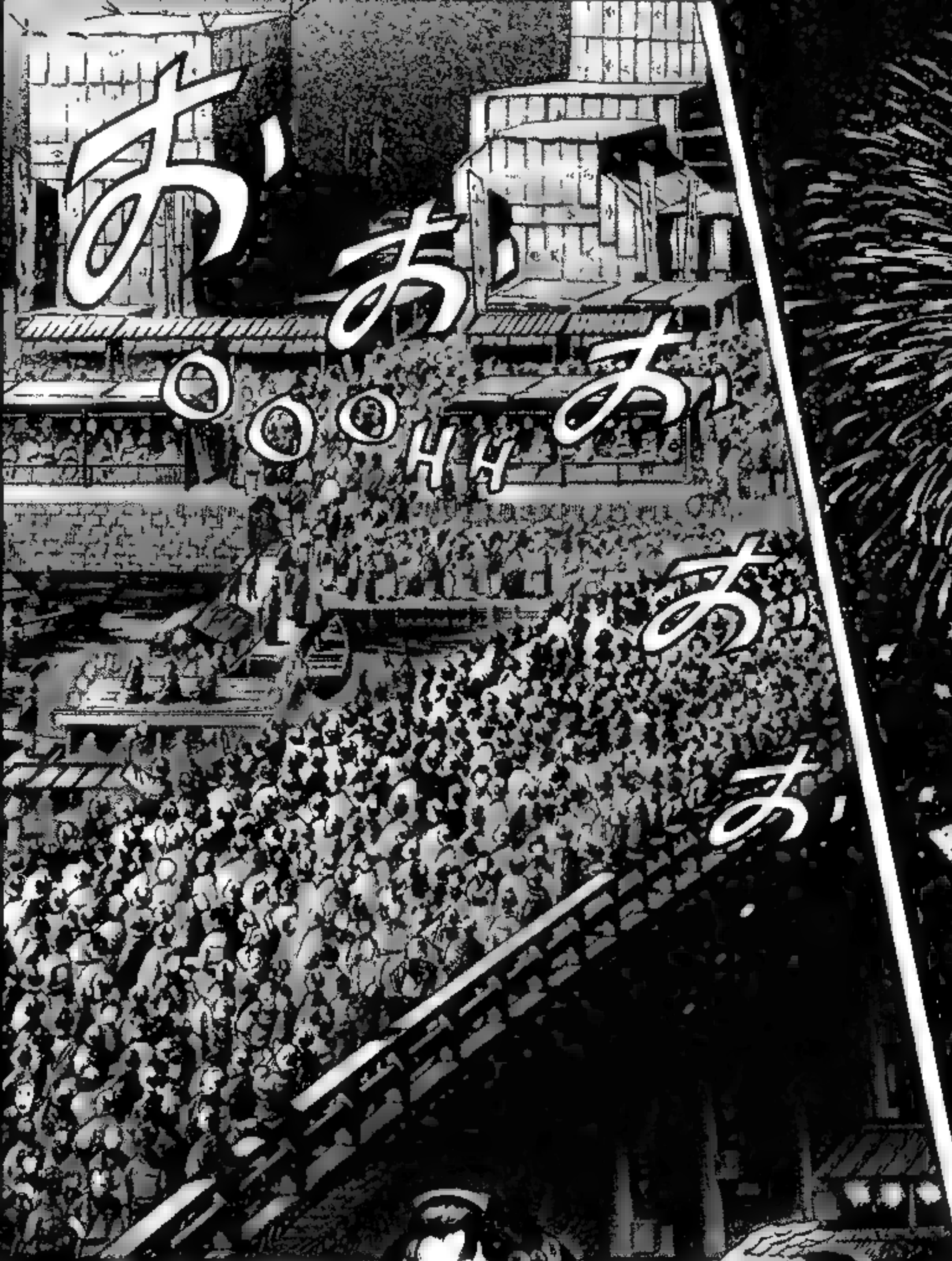
YOU MIGHT FEEL  
A DIFFERENCE  
FROM BEFORE  
SINCE IT'S ONLY  
BEEN A SHORT  
WHILE AFTER THE  
SURGERY, BUT...

AKANE-SAN,  
THE DOCTOR HAS  
PUT HIS SOUL IN-  
TO TREATING YOU.  
THAT SCAR FROM  
THE SURGERY IS  
VERY FINE...













AKANE-SAN,  
THE NIGHT  
BREEZE IS  
REFRESHING,  
ISN'T IT?



KAGI-  
YA!



I THOUGHT  
I'D NEVER  
BE ABLE TO  
SHOW MY  
FACE AGAIN  
IN PUBLIC  
LIKE THIS.

YOU WERE  
RIGHT. NO  
ONE'S EVEN  
LOOKING  
TWICE AT  
MY SCAR.

\*KAGIYA WAS THE HOUSE THAT MADE FIREWORKS IN THIS ERA. TO PAY RESPECT TO THEM, PEOPLE SHOUTED THEIR NAME IN APPLAUSE OF THEIR BEAUTIFUL WORK.

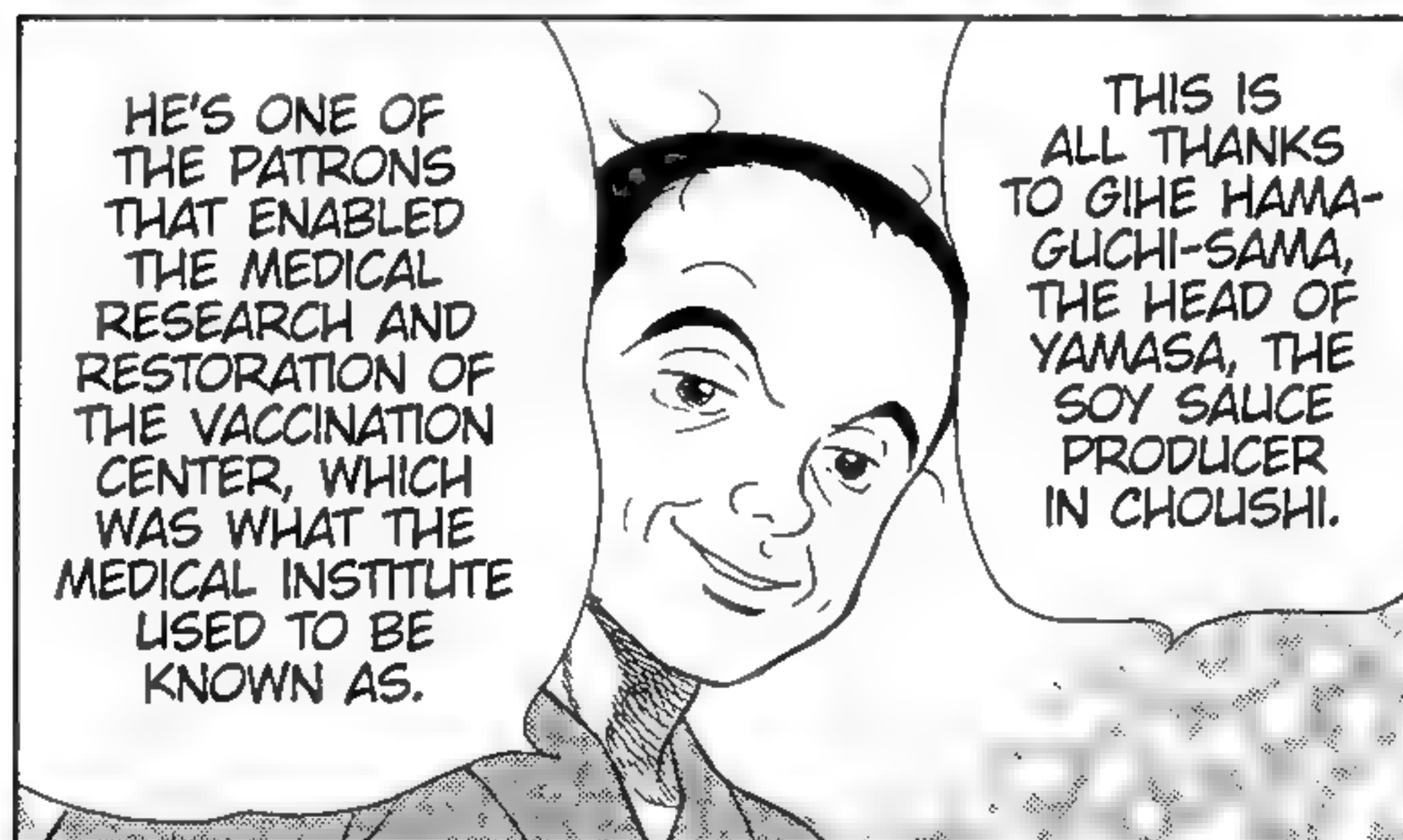
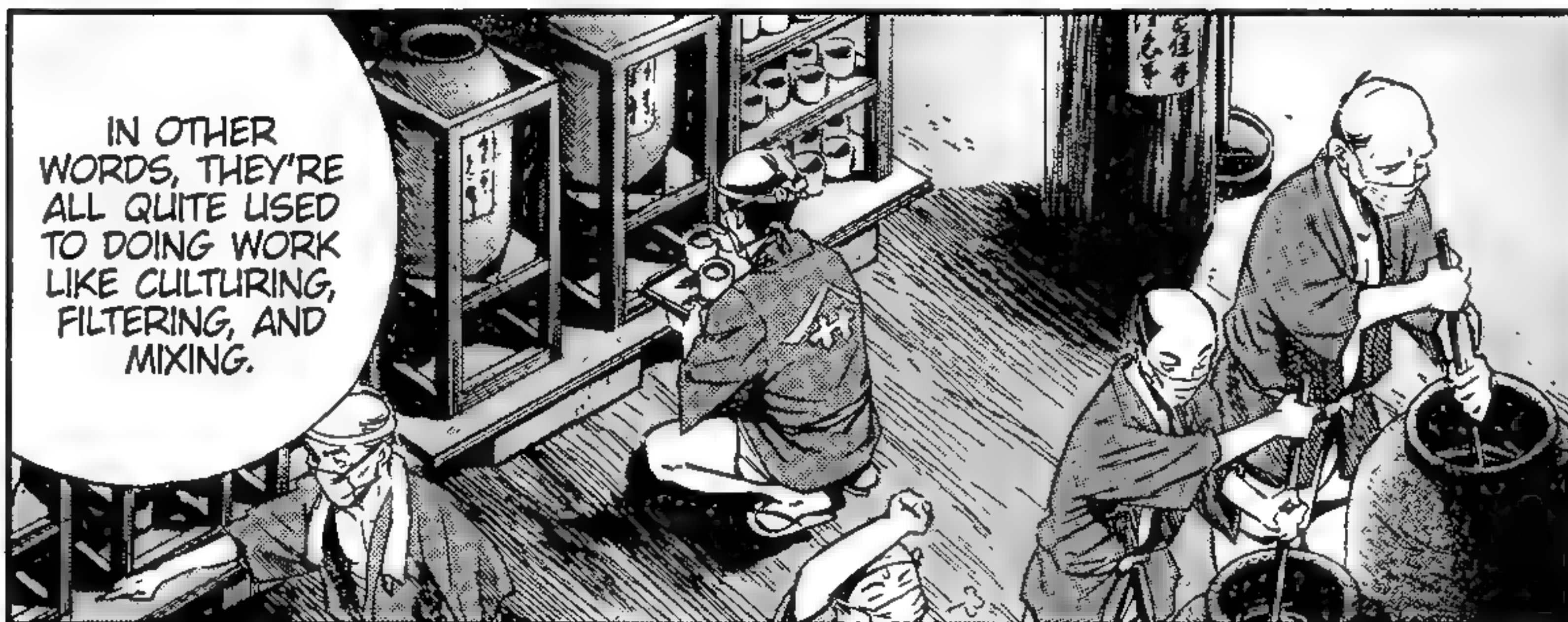




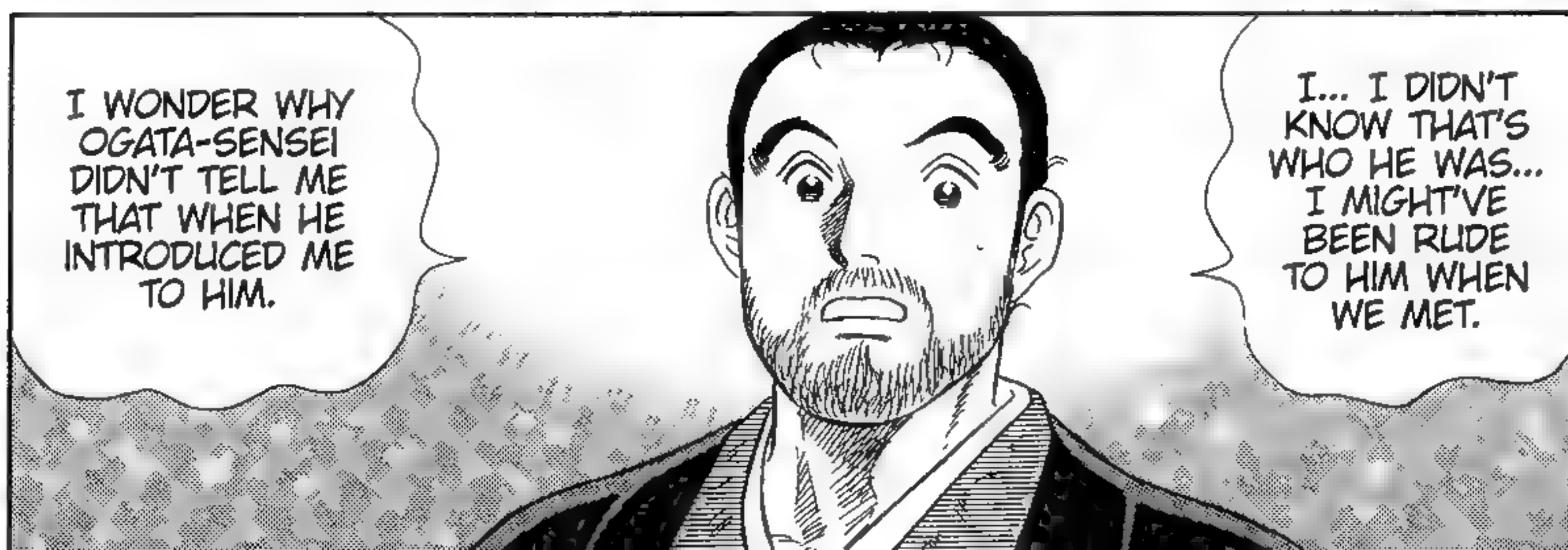








THIS IS ALL THANKS TO GIHE HAMAGUCHI-SAMA, THE HEAD OF YAMASA, THE SOY SAUCE PRODUCER IN CHOUJISHI.



I WONDER WHY OGATA-SENSEI DIDN'T TELL ME THAT WHEN HE INTRODUCED ME TO HIM.



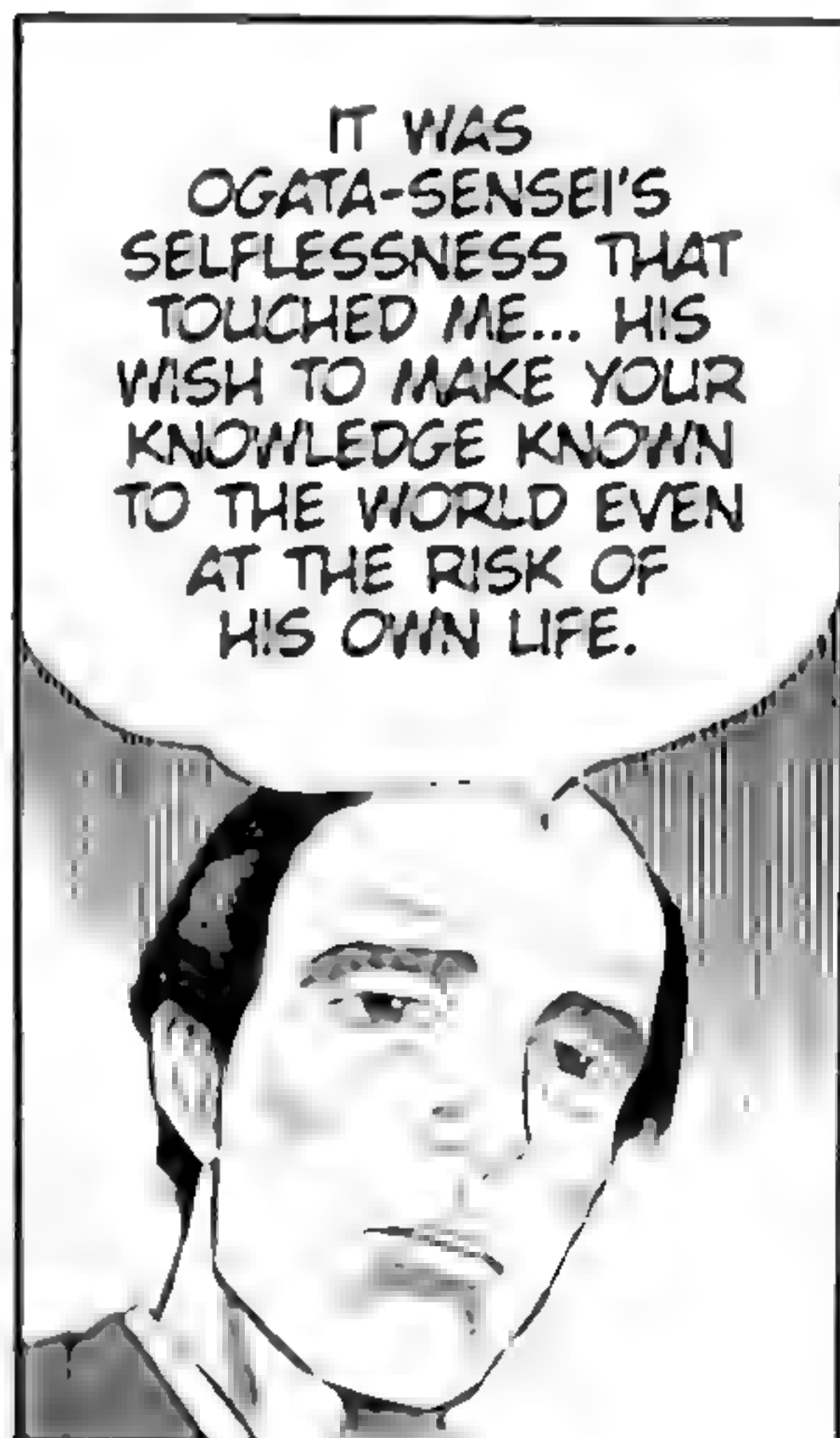


AND JUST  
AS HE SAID,  
IT WAS LIKE  
SEEING THE  
SECRETS OF  
A SAGE...



I WANTED  
TO BE A MERE  
OBSERVER OF  
YOUR MEDICAL  
TECHNIQUES.

THAT'S  
BECAUSE I  
ASKED HIM  
NOT TO TELL  
YOU WHO  
I AM.



IT WAS  
OGATA-SENSEI'S  
SELFLESSNESS THAT  
TOUCHED ME... HIS  
WISH TO MAKE YOUR  
KNOWLEDGE KNOWN  
TO THE WORLD EVEN  
AT THE RISK OF  
HIS OWN LIFE.



HOWEVER,  
IT WASN'T  
BECAUSE OF  
THAT, THAT I  
DECIDED TO  
HELP YOU.

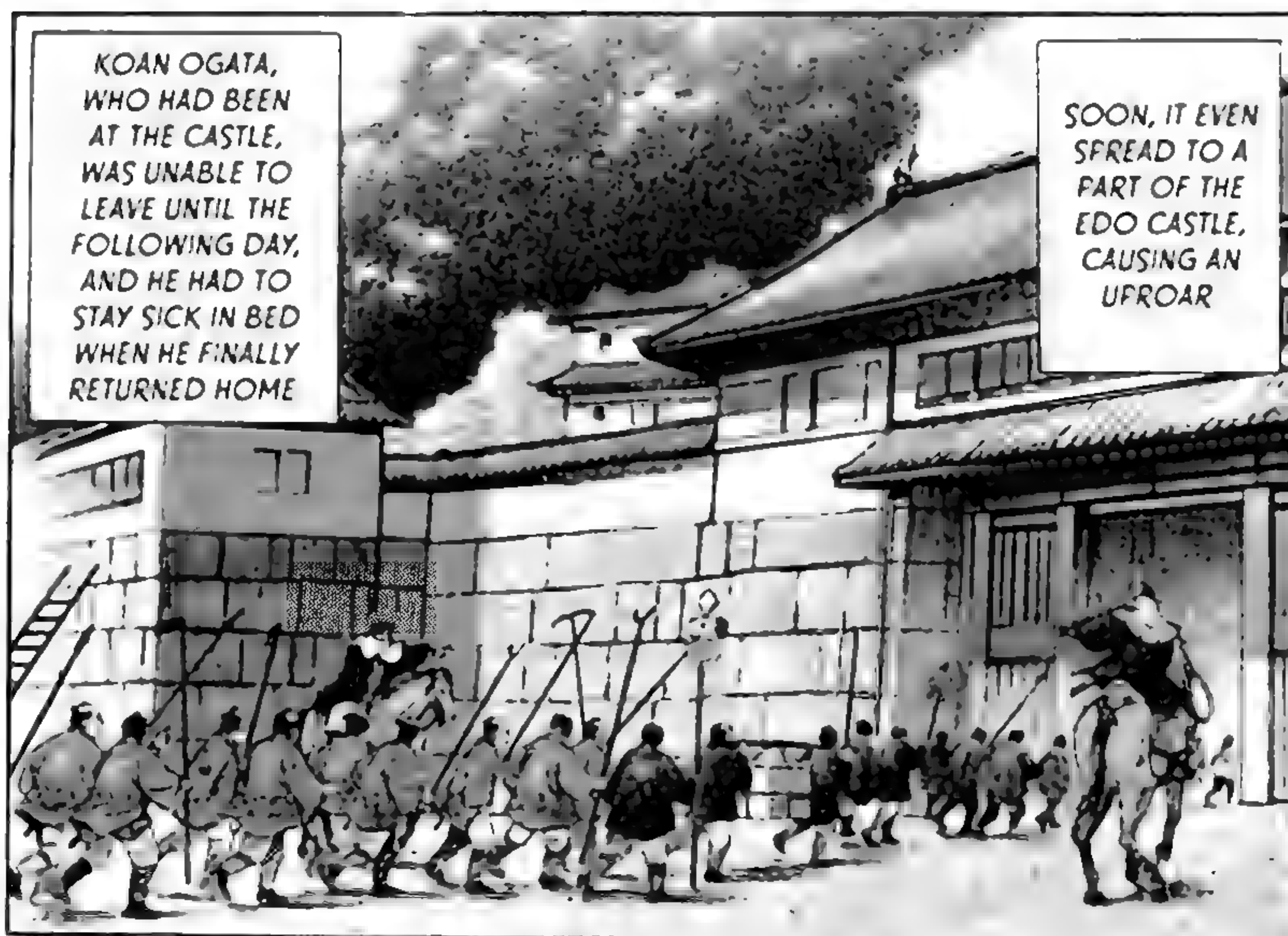








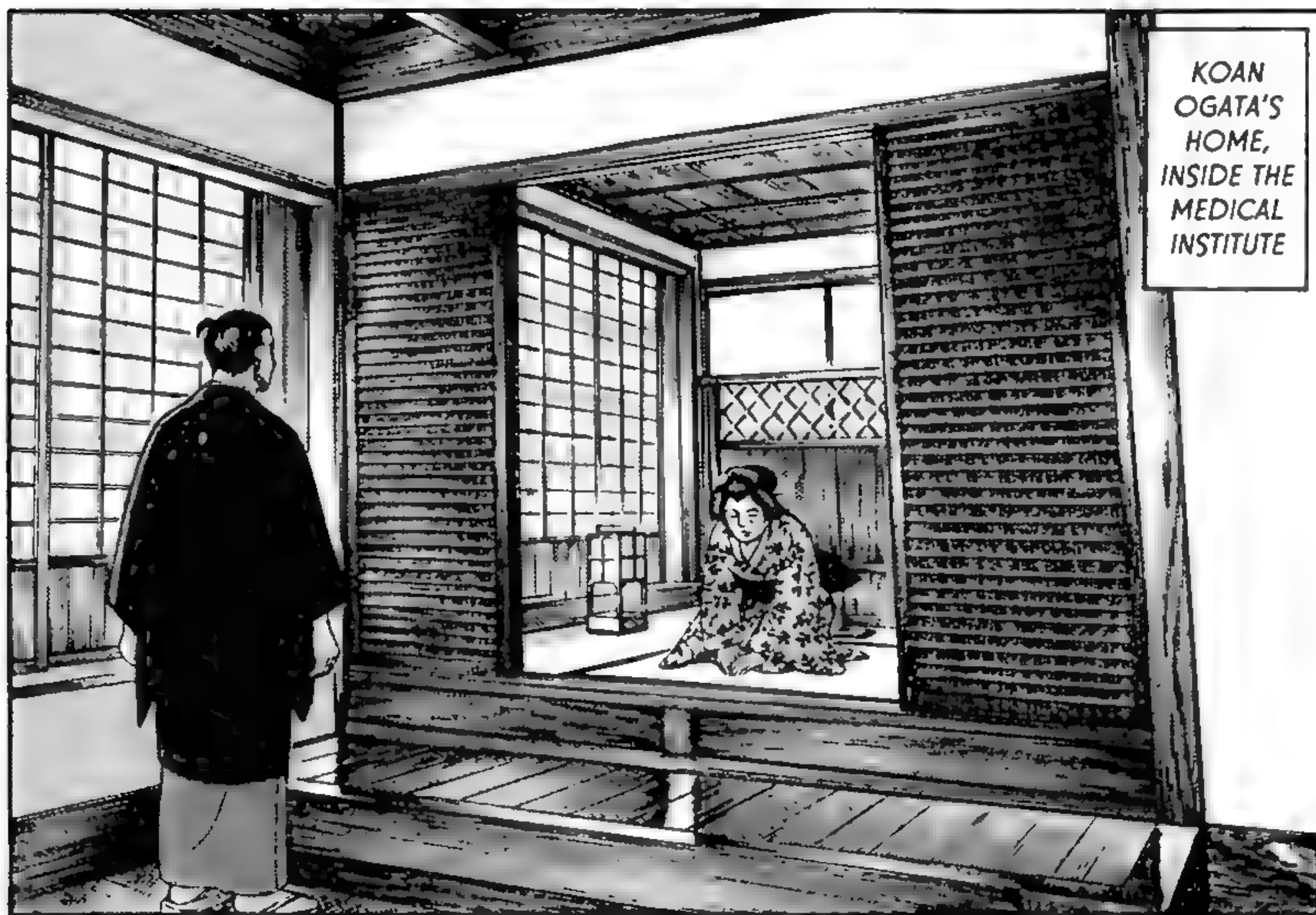
AT THE START OF THE MONTH OF JUNE, THE FIRE THAT BROKE OUT IN AZABU SPREAD FROM THE SOUTHERN WINDS AT THE END OF THE RAINY SEASON



KOAN OGATA, WHO HAD BEEN AT THE CASTLE, WAS UNABLE TO LEAVE UNTIL THE FOLLOWING DAY, AND HE HAD TO STAY SICK IN BED WHEN HE FINALLY RETURNED HOME

SOON, IT EVEN SPREAD TO A PART OF THE EDO CASTLE, CAUSING AN UPROAR

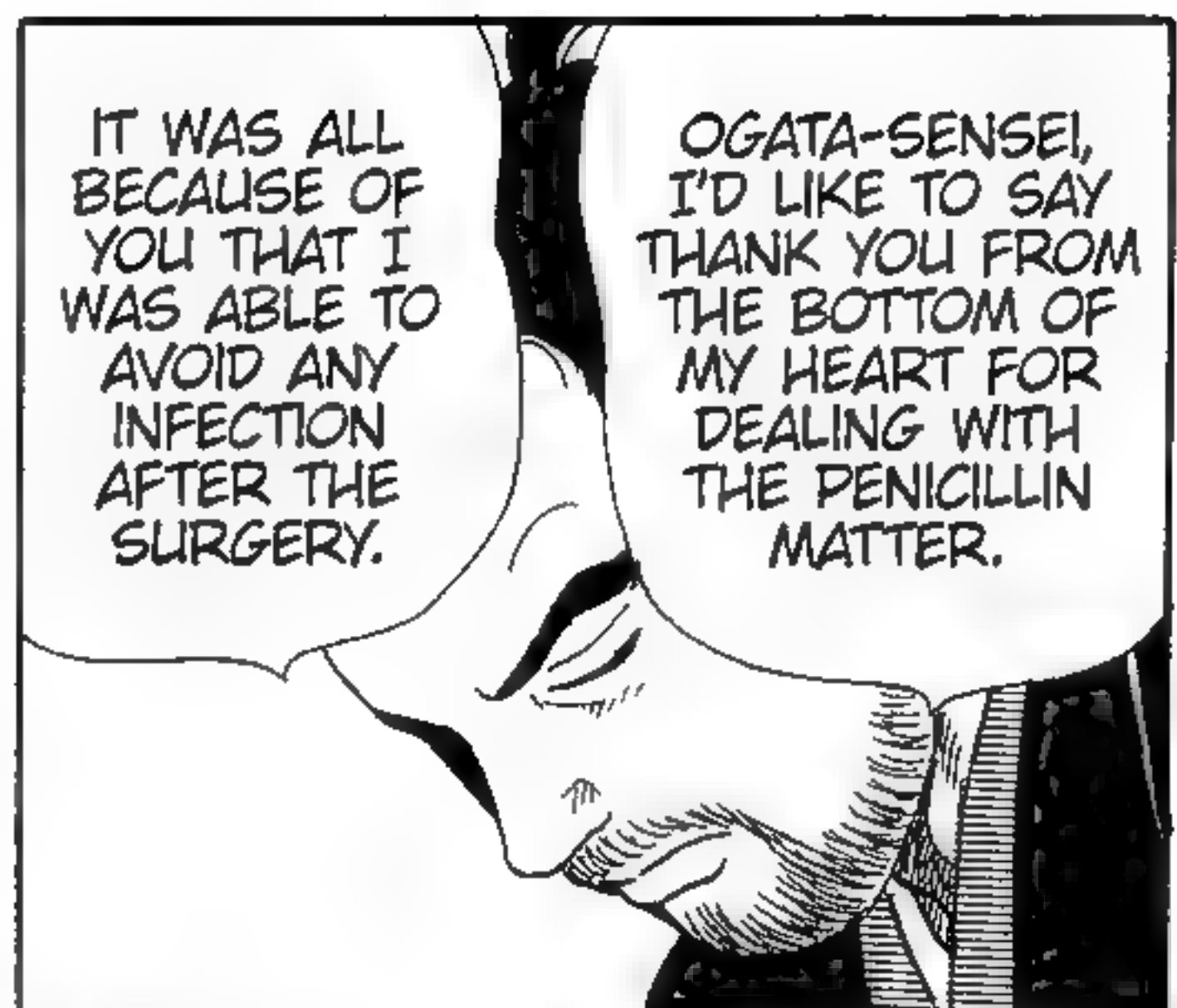








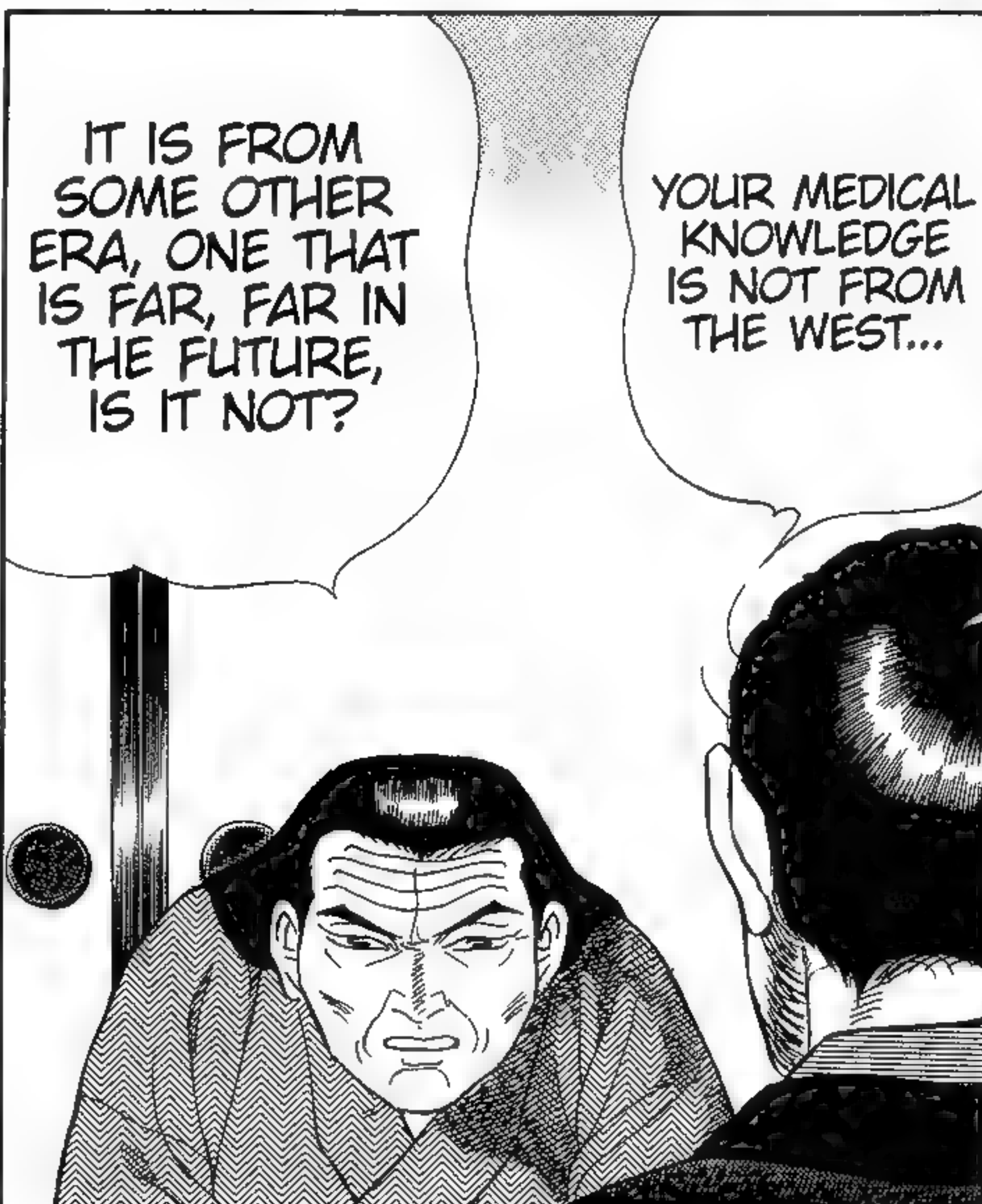
THERE'S NO NEED FOR THAT.



OGATA-SENSEI, I'D LIKE TO SAY THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART FOR DEALING WITH THE PENICILLIN MATTER.



I JUST DIDN'T WANT TO SEE THE SEED DIE.

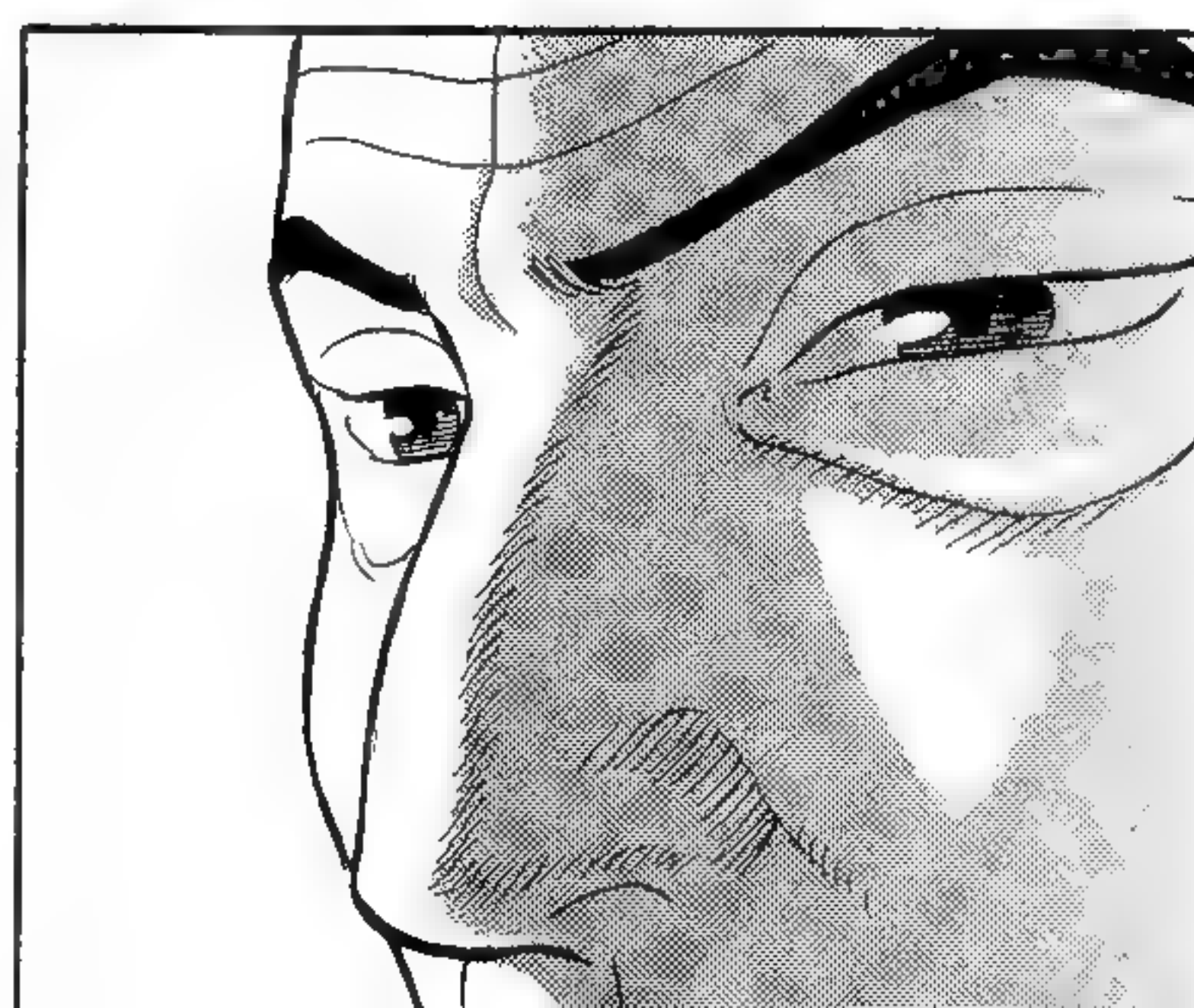
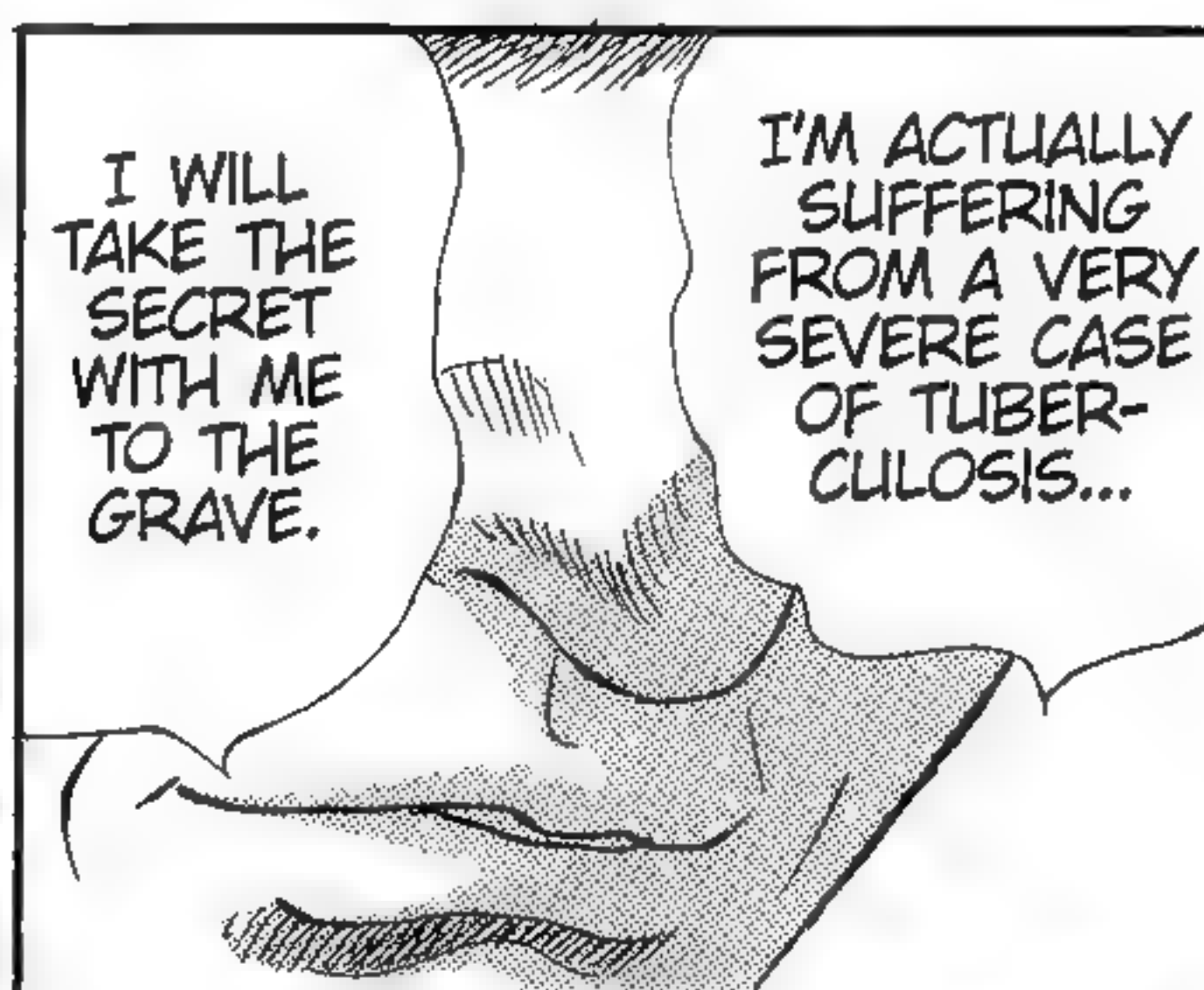
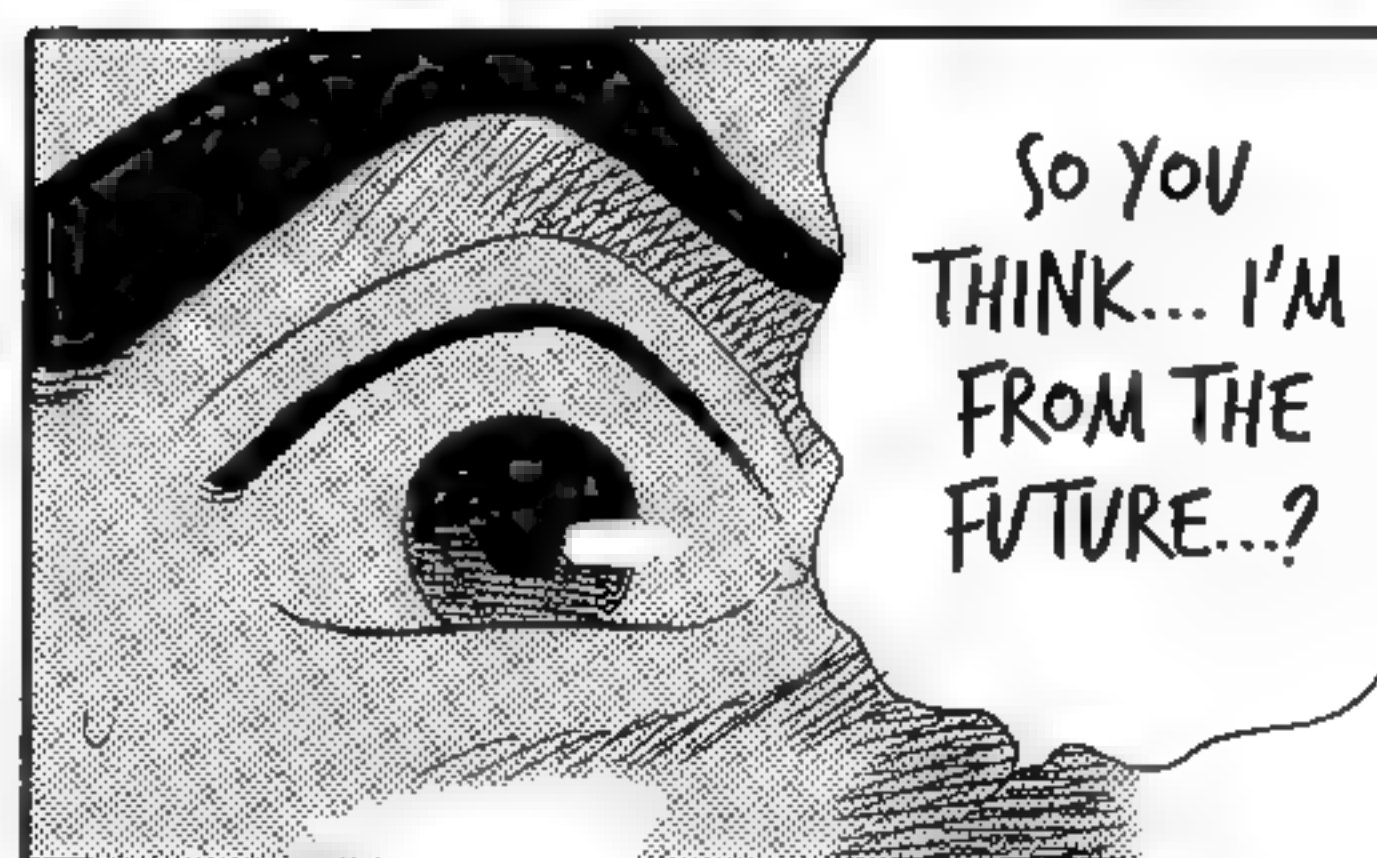
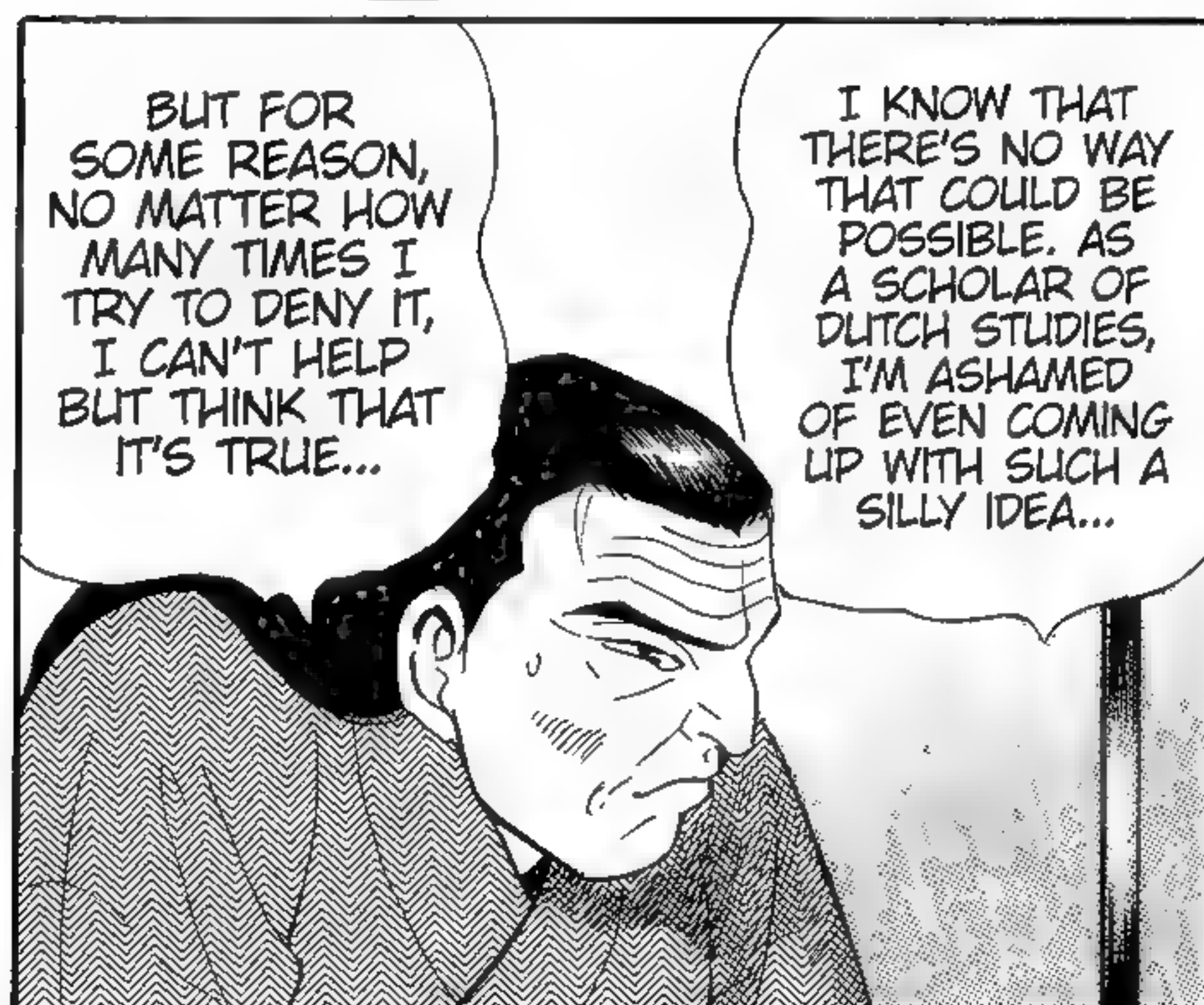


YOUR MEDICAL KNOWLEDGE IS NOT FROM THE WEST...



MINA-KATA-DONO...

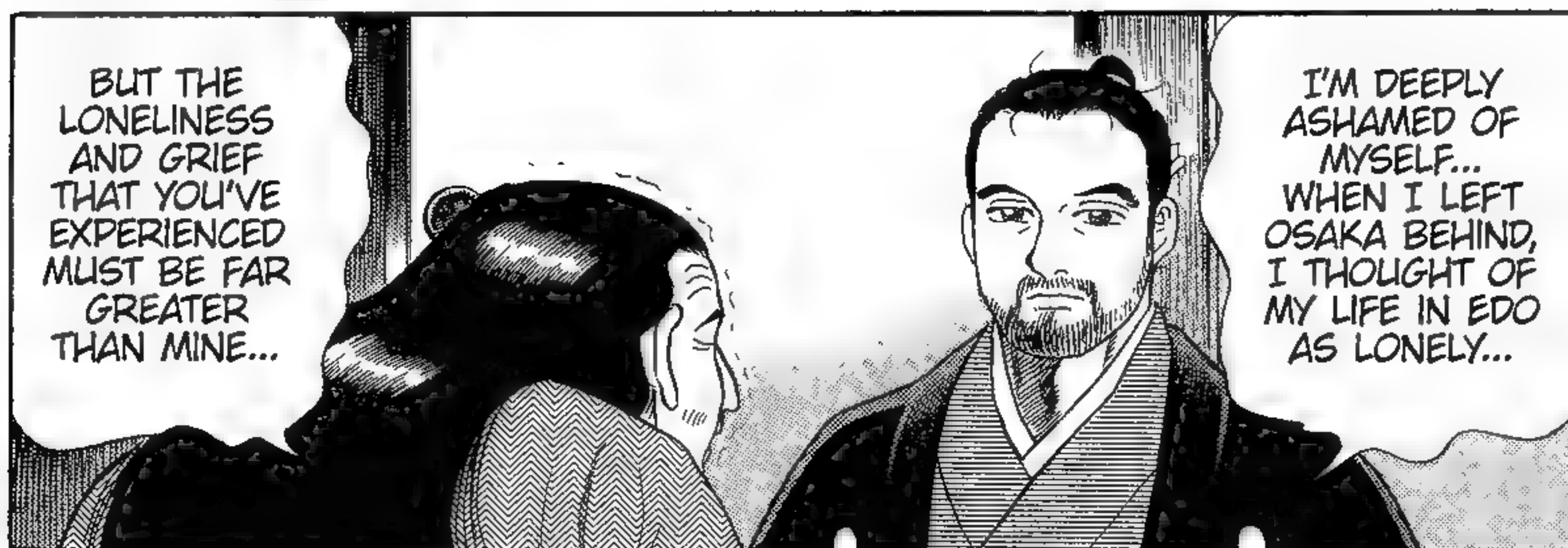














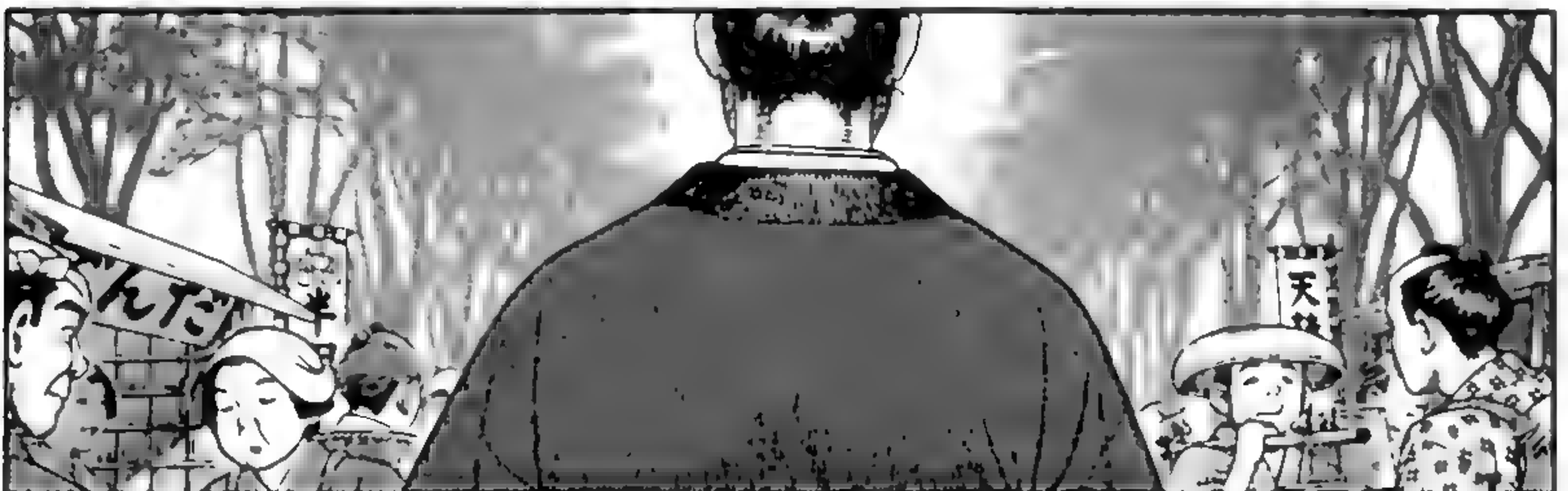


HE PASSED  
AWAY AT THE  
AGE OF 53,  
A WEEK AFTER  
OUR LAST  
MEETING

KOAN OGATA HAD  
CONTRIBUTED TO THE  
SPREAD OF WESTERN  
MEDICINE FOR MANY YEARS  
HE OPENED A PRIVATE  
SCHOOL FOR DUTCH  
STUDIES IN OSAKA AND  
RAISED MANY INDIVIDUALS  
THERE, INCLUDING YUKICHI  
FUKUZAWA, WHO WOULD  
PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE  
IN THE UPCOMING AGE



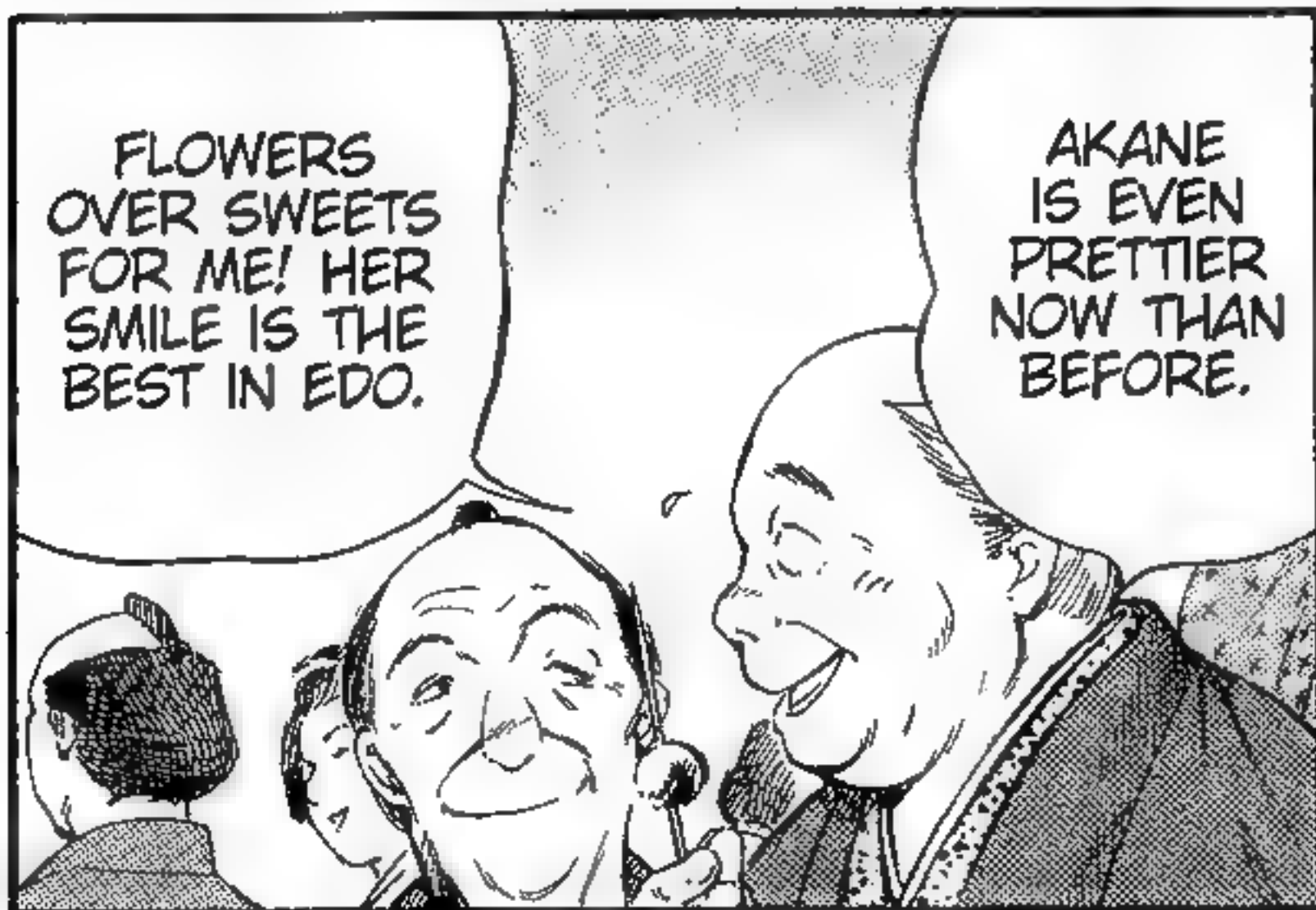




77 \*TANABATA (LIT. "EVENING OF THE SEVENTH") ALSO KNOWN AS THE STAR FESTIVAL, IS A JAPANESE FESTIVAL CELEBRATED IN JULY. IT CELEBRATES THE MEETING OF THE DEITIES ORIHIME AND HIKOBOSHI (REPRESENTED BY THE STARS VEGA AND ALTAIR RESPECTIVELY) WHO CAN ONLY MEET ONCE A YEAR ACCORDING TO FOLKLORE.



\*IN JAPAN, THERE IS A POPULAR PHRASE, "SWEETS OVER FLOWERS," WHICH REFERS TO TREASURING NECESSITIES (FOOD) OVER BEAUTY (FLOWERS.) THE SPEAKER HERE IS TWISTING THE TERM TO SAY THE OPPOSITE.





# SUBMERSION CHAPTER

## PART 1: THE KABUKI ACTOR

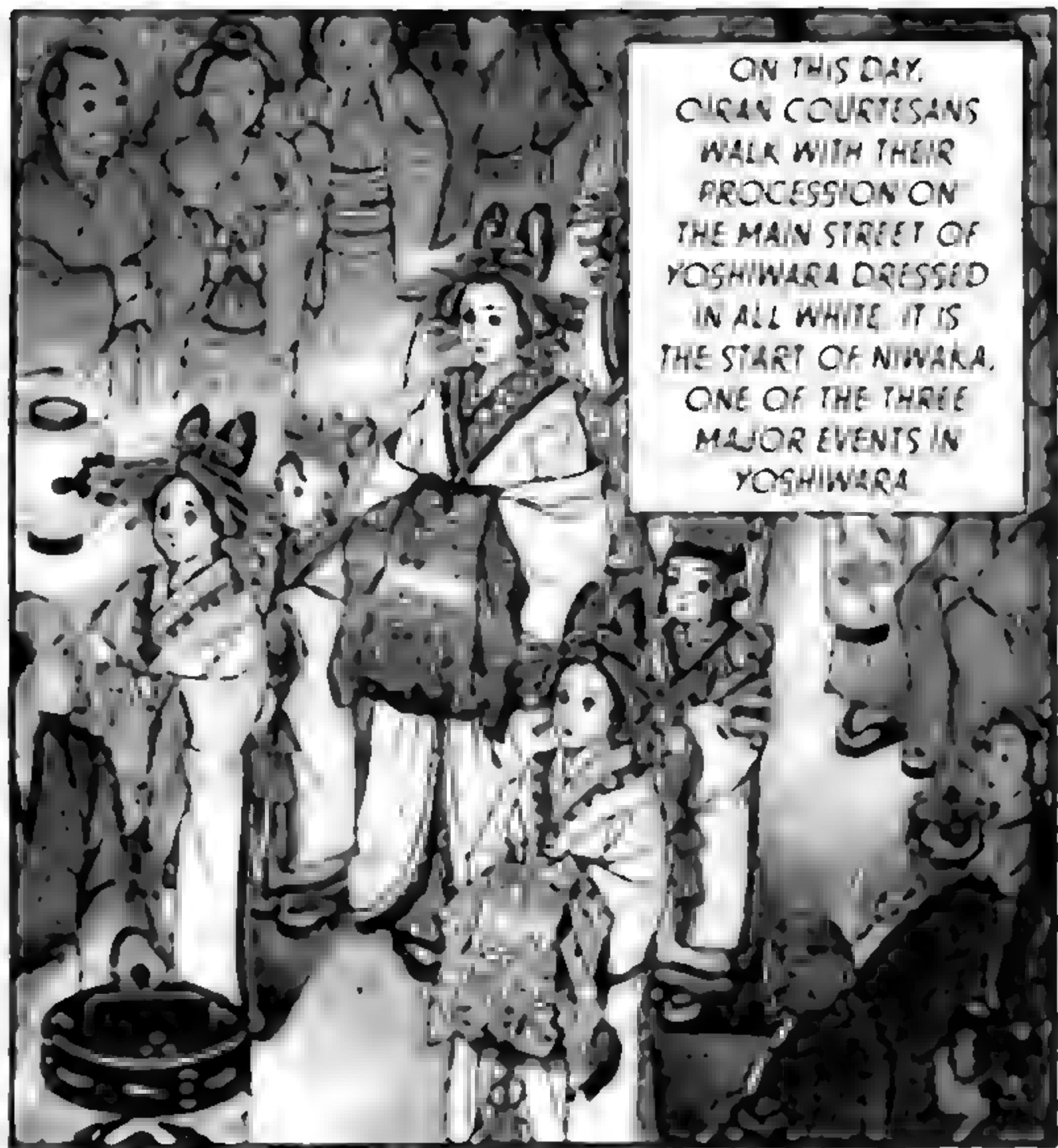


FIRST OF  
AUGUST IN  
THE THIRD  
YEAR OF  
BUNKYU  
(1863.)  
YOSHIWARA



LOOK AT  
THAT MAN!  
WOW, HE'S  
SO GOOD-  
LOOKING!

WOMEN, WHO  
ARE NORMALLY  
NOT ALLOWED  
IN, CRAM INTO  
YOSHIWARA TO  
ENJOY THIS  
GRAND EVENT



ON THIS DAY,  
CIRCA COURTESANS  
WALK WITH THEIR  
PROCESSION ON  
THE MAIN STREET OF  
YOSHIWARA DRESSED  
IN ALL WHITE. IT IS  
THE START OF NIWAKA,  
ONE OF THE THREE  
MAJOR EVENTS IN  
YOSHIWARA



# SUBMERSION CHAPTER PART 1: THE KABUKI ACTOR

A black and white manga-style illustration. In the center, a kabuki actor in a dark, patterned kimono and a dark hood looks to the left. He holds a fan with a floral design. The background is a crowded street at night, with many people in traditional Japanese clothing. A sign with the characters '仲の男' (Naka no Otoko) is visible. The scene is lit by street lamps, creating a dramatic atmosphere.

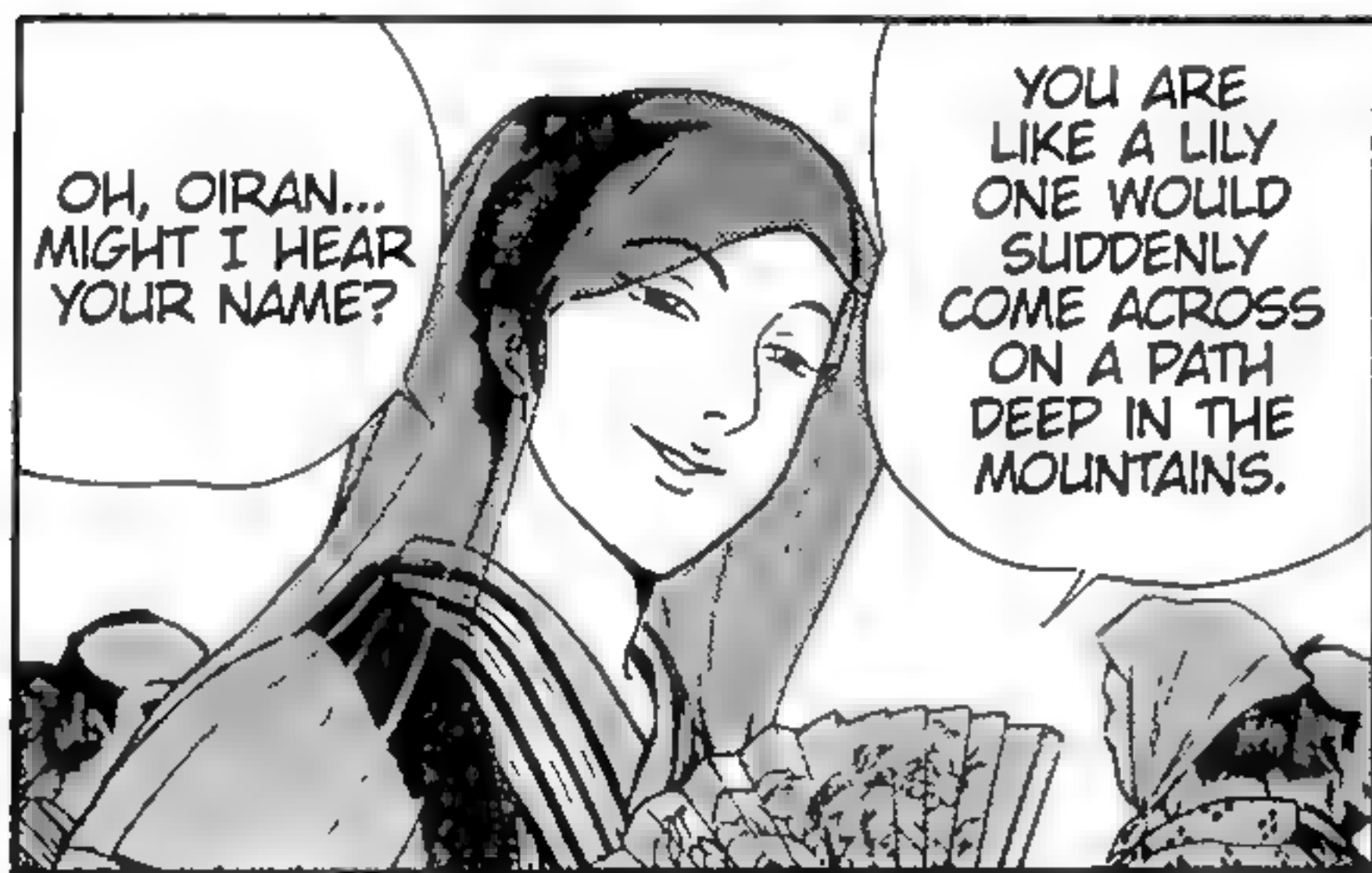
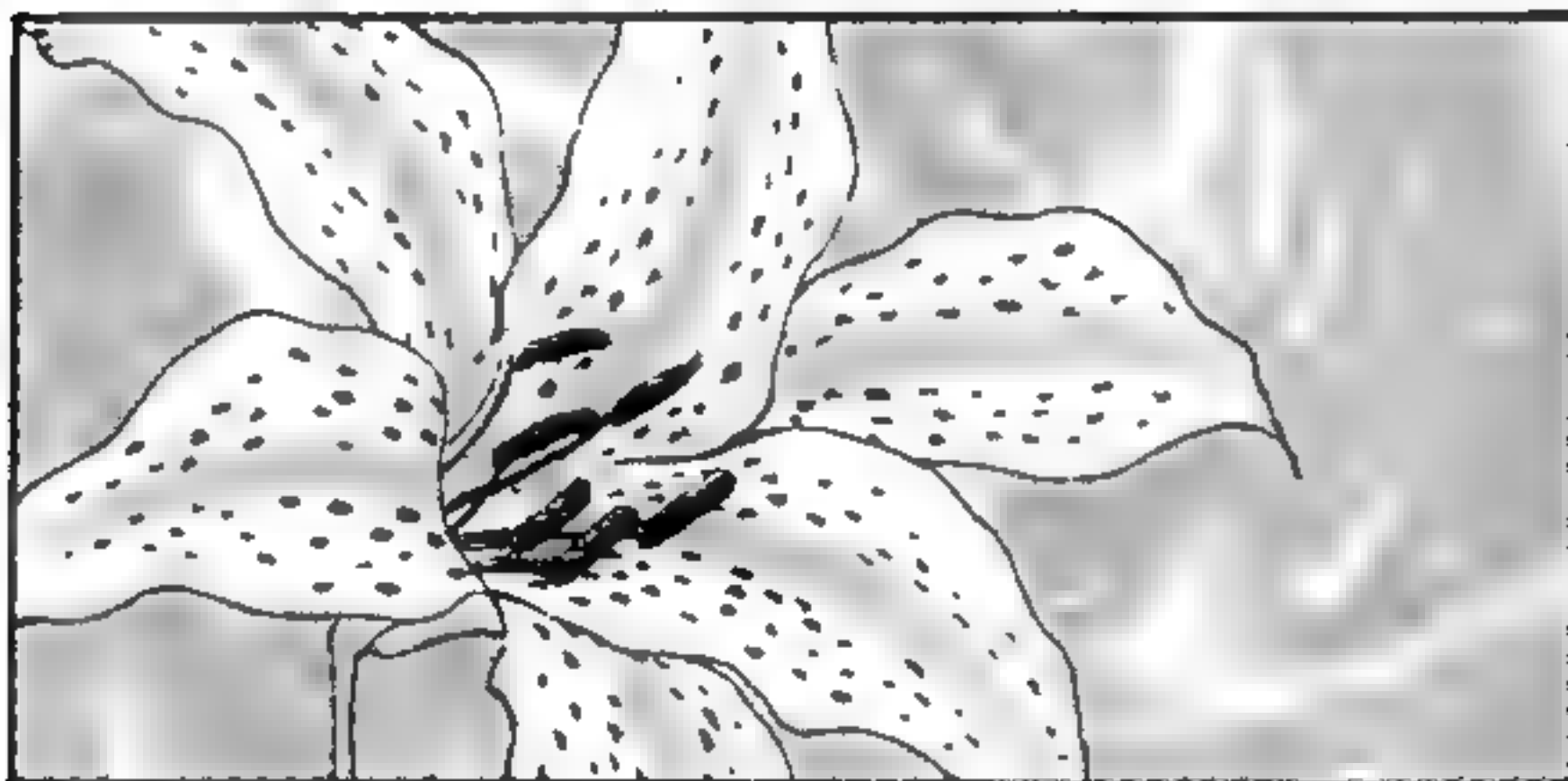
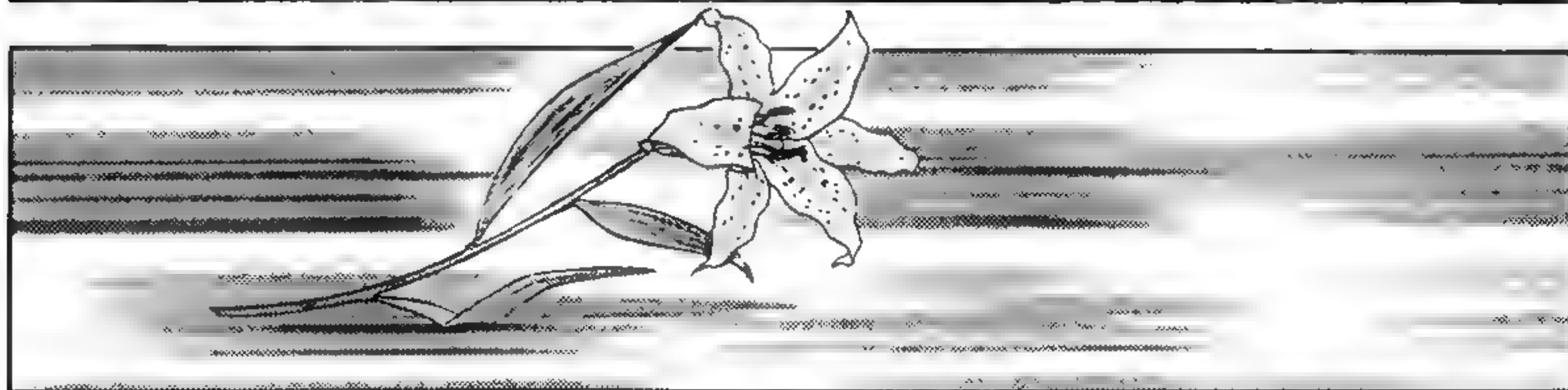
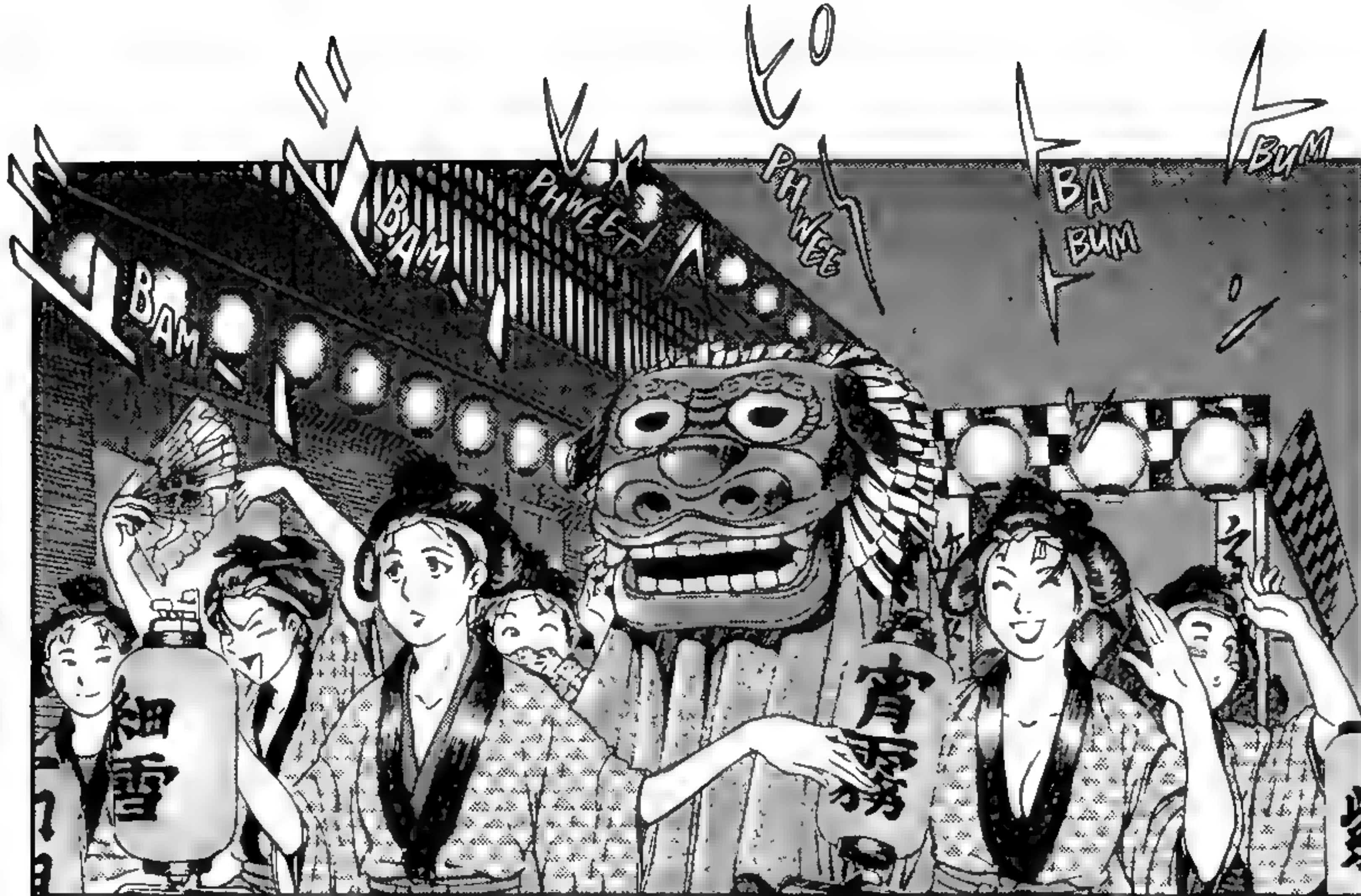
HE ROSE  
TO FAME AS  
THE YOUNGEST  
ACTOR TO PLAY  
FEMALE ROLES  
AT 16, AND NOW  
AT 18, HE'S AN  
ACTOR THAT'S  
WORTH 1000  
RYO.

THAT WAS  
TANOSHIKE SAWA-  
MURA JUST NOW.  
HE'S THE FAMOUS  
ACTOR FROM THE  
MORITA-ZA THAT'S  
BEST KNOWN FOR  
HIS FEMALE  
ROLES.









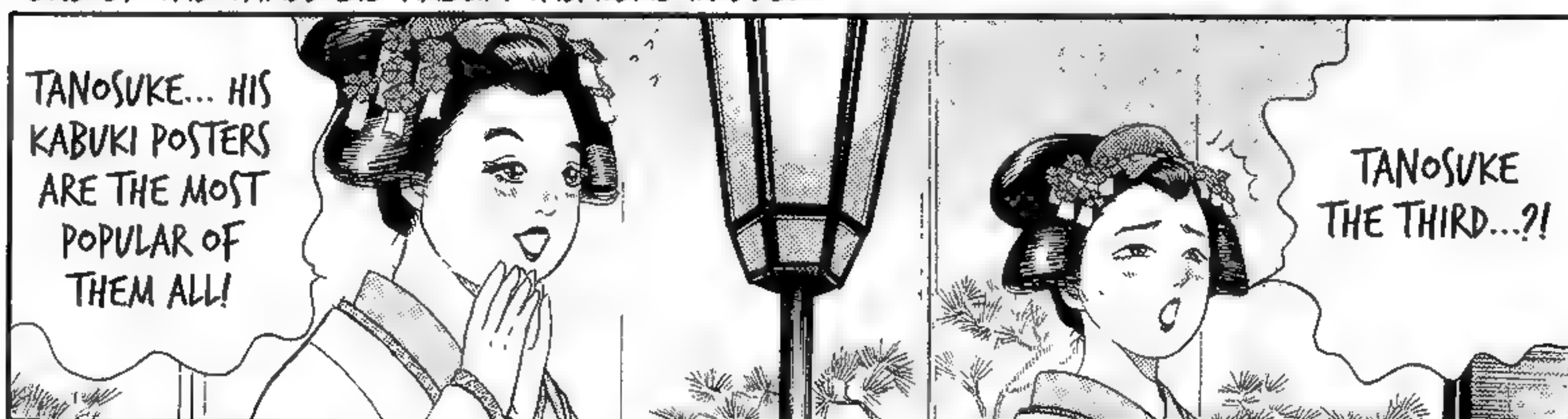




OH MY, YOU ARE QUITE RIGHT.



\*ONE OF THE THREE BIG KABUKI THEATERS IN EDO.







HMM,  
WHAT  
MIGHT  
THAT  
BE?

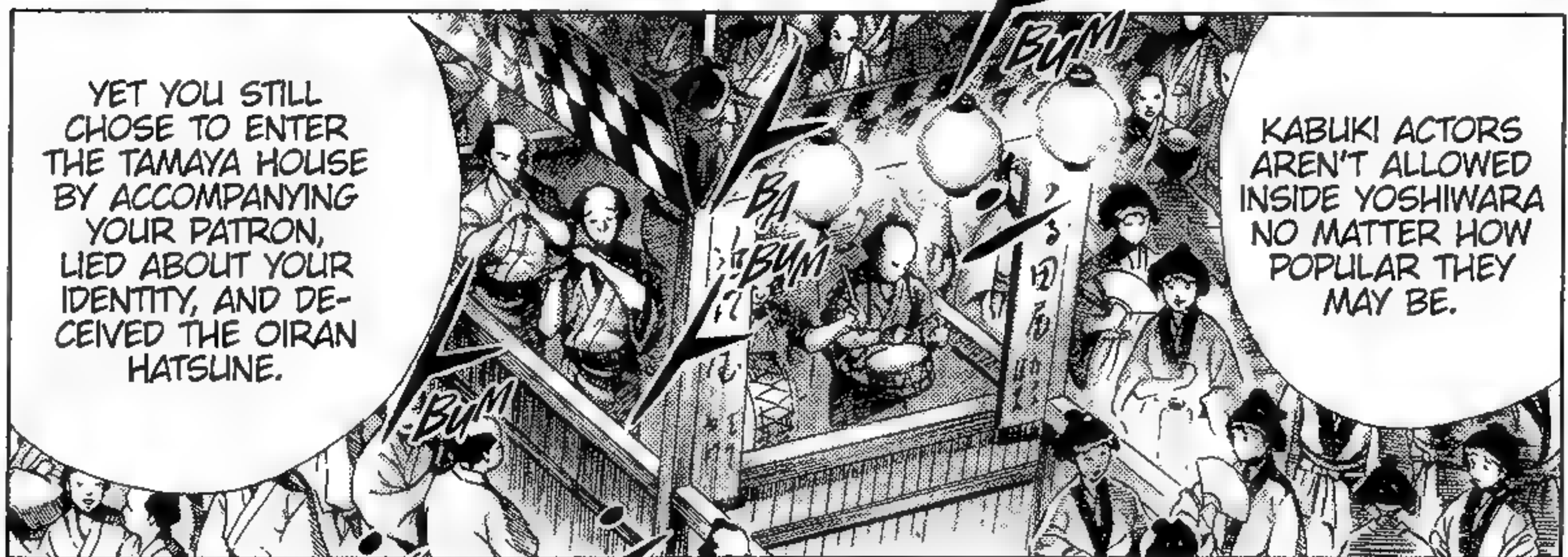


MY NAME IS NOKAZE.  
IF YOU REALLY ARE  
TANOSUKE, THEN I  
HAVE SOMETHING  
I WANT TO SAY.



S-SORRY!

JOLT



YET YOU STILL  
CHOSE TO ENTER  
THE TAMAYA HOUSE  
BY ACCOMPANYING  
YOUR PATRON,  
LIED ABOUT YOUR  
IDENTITY, AND DE-  
CEIVED THE OIRAN  
HATSUNE.

KABUKI ACTORS  
AREN'T ALLOWED  
INSIDE YOSHIWARA  
NO MATTER HOW  
POPULAR THEY  
MAY BE.



I'VE HEARD  
THAT YOU ARE  
THE REASON  
SHE FELL ILL!

WHAT AN  
UNFAITHFUL  
MAN YOU  
ARE!



BESIDES...  
I KNOW OF  
NO RULE THAT  
FORBIDS AN  
ACTOR FROM  
ACCOMPANYING  
A PATRON  
INSIDE.

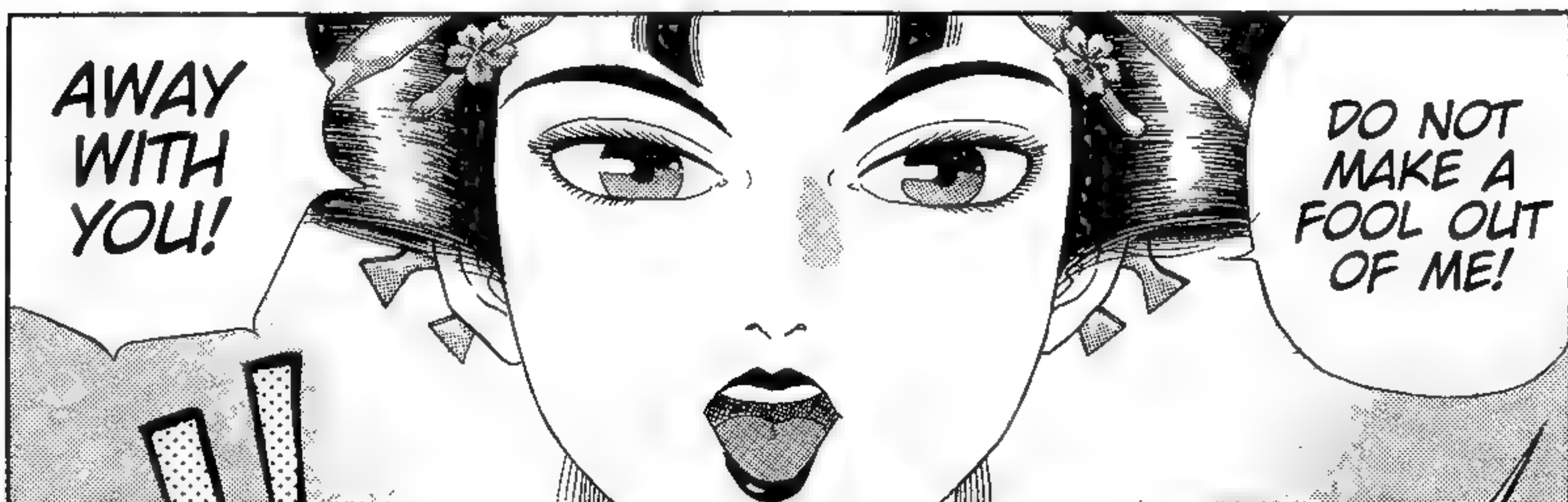
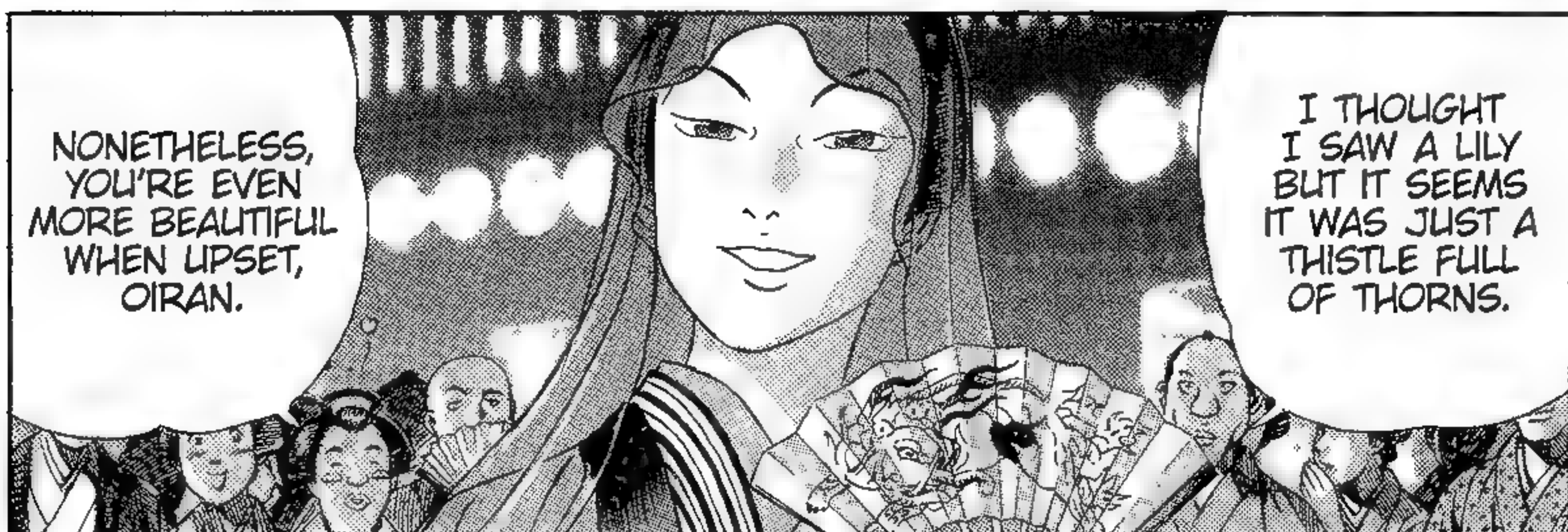
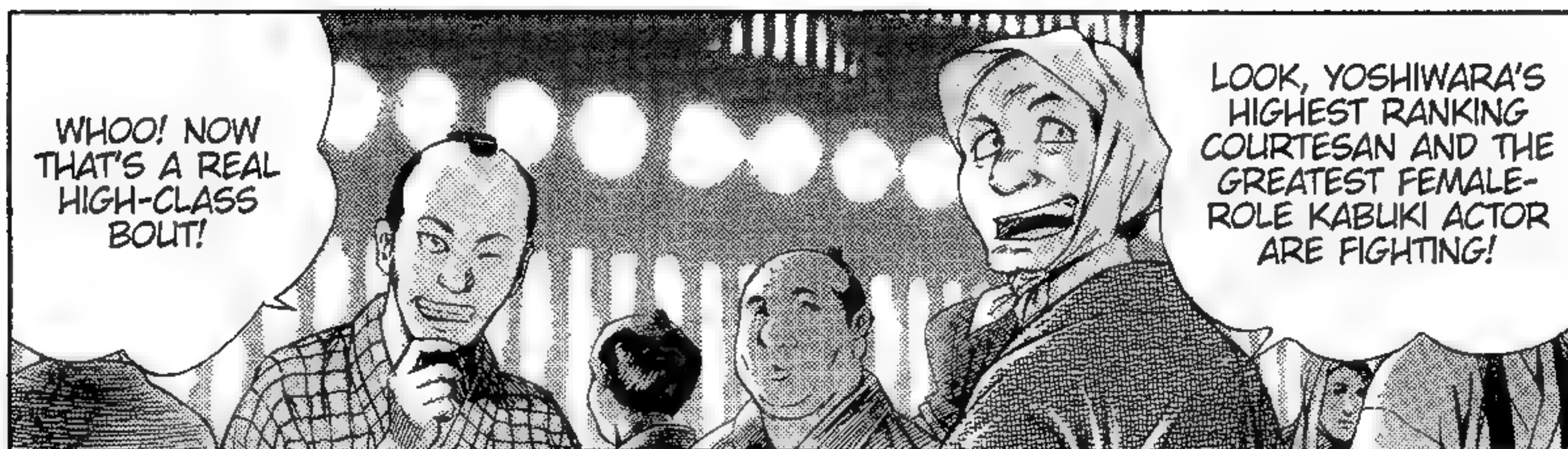
OH, WHAT  
A STRANGE  
THING TO SAY.  
BUT DECEIT IS  
WHAT OIRAN  
COURTESANS  
SPECIALIZE IN.



HOW CAN  
YOU EXPECT  
FAITHFULNESS  
FROM US?

ANOTHER  
STRANGE  
COMMENT...  
ACTORS AND  
COURTESANS  
ARE TWO OF  
A KIND...

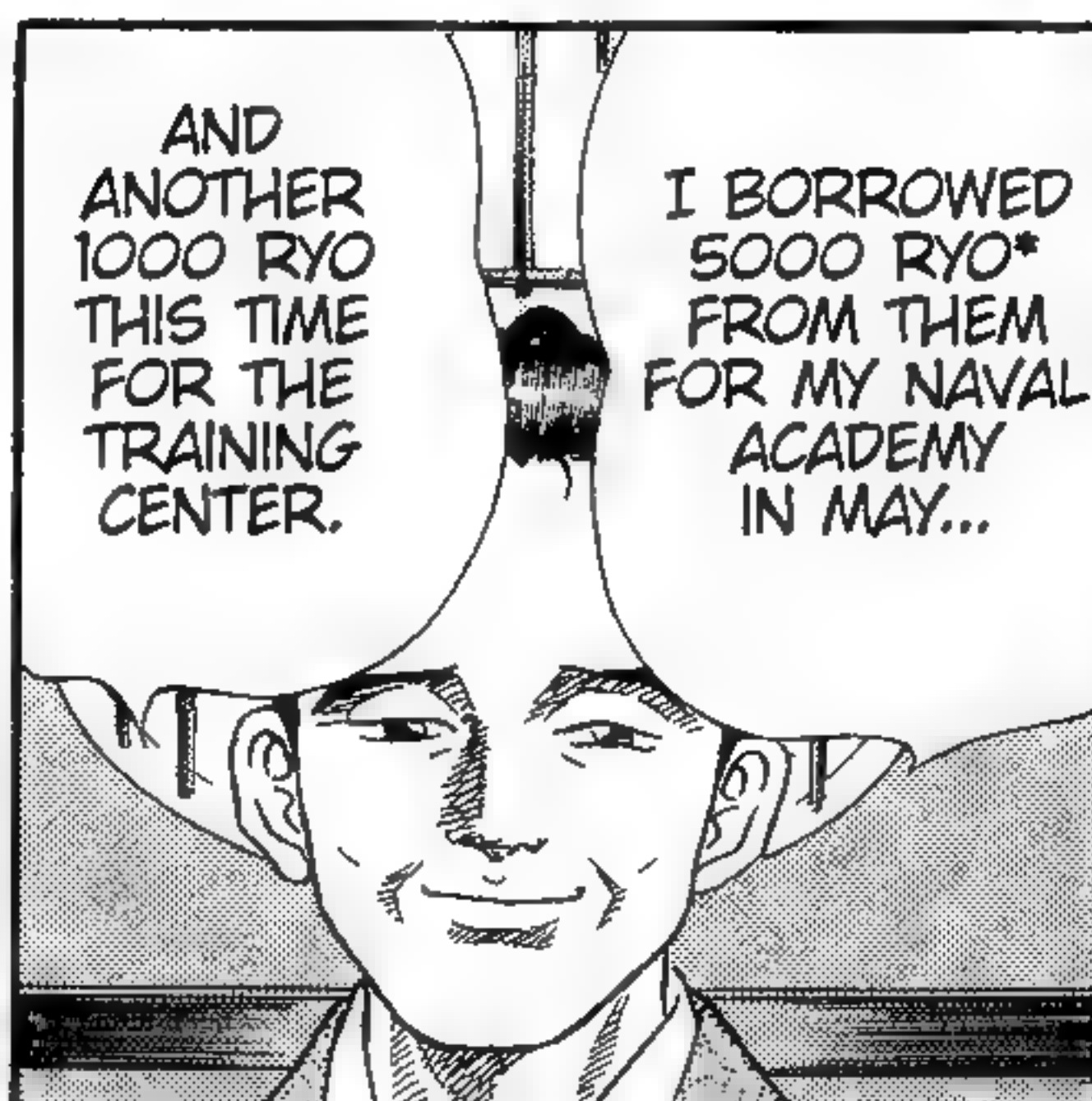




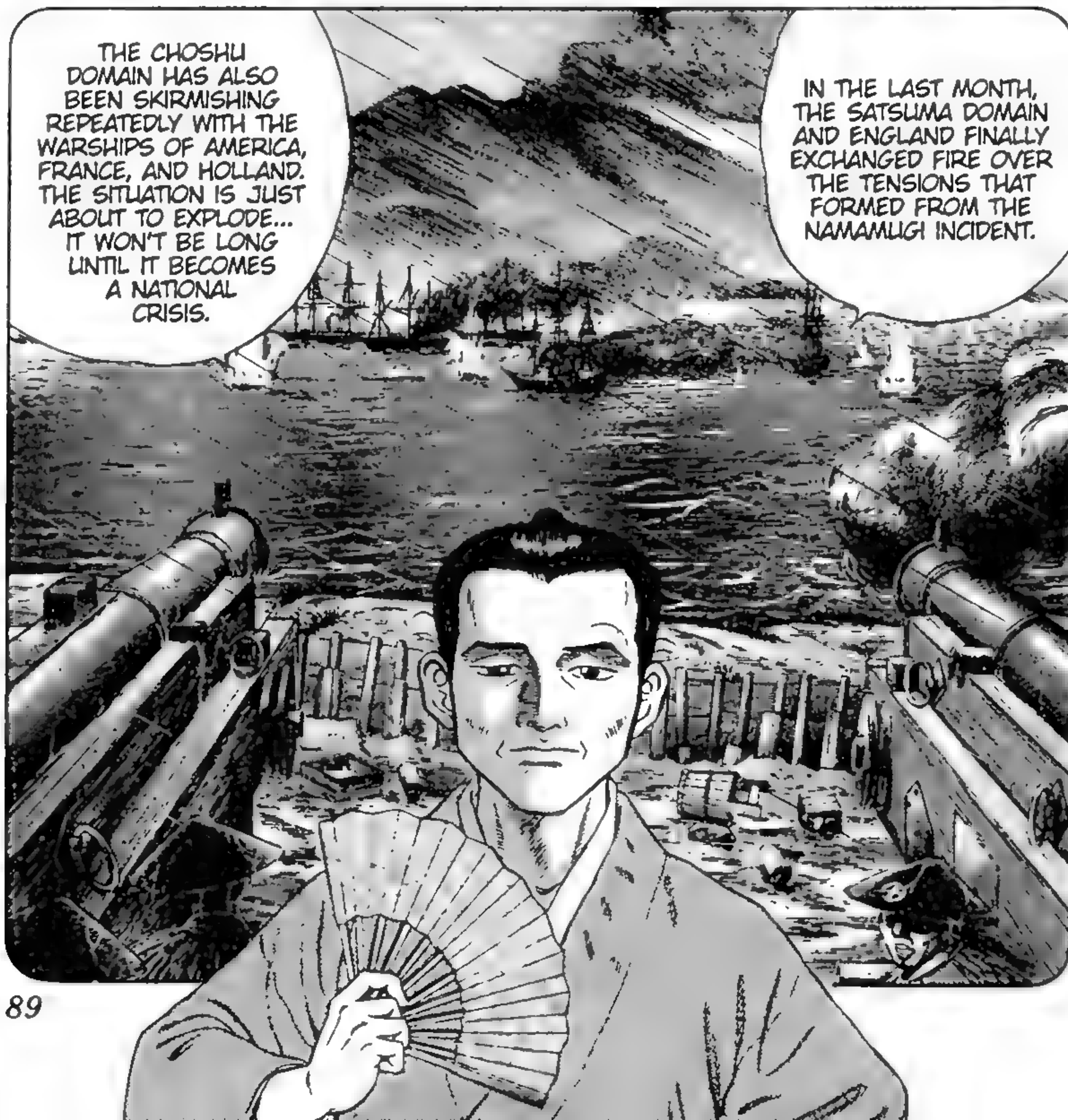






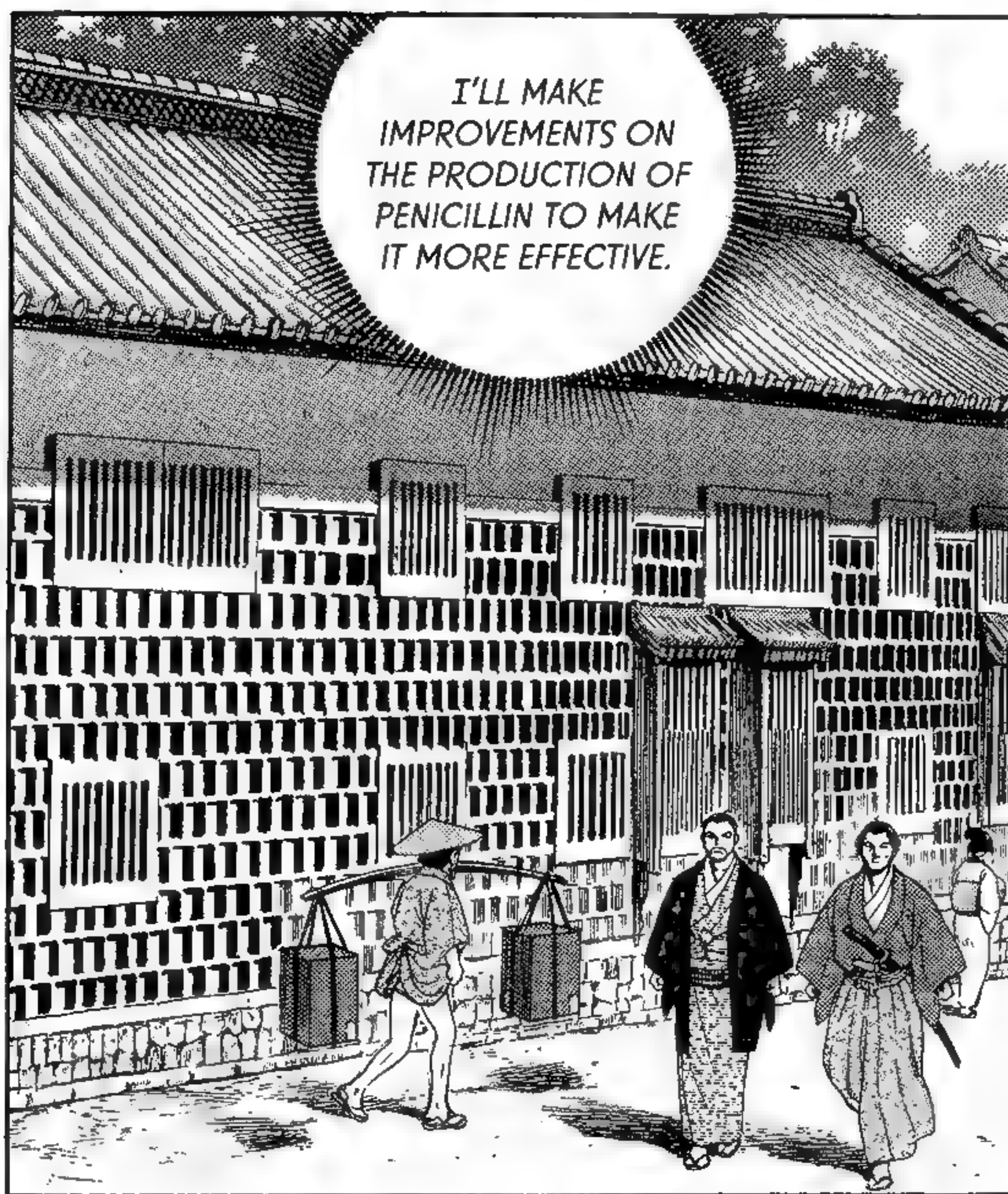




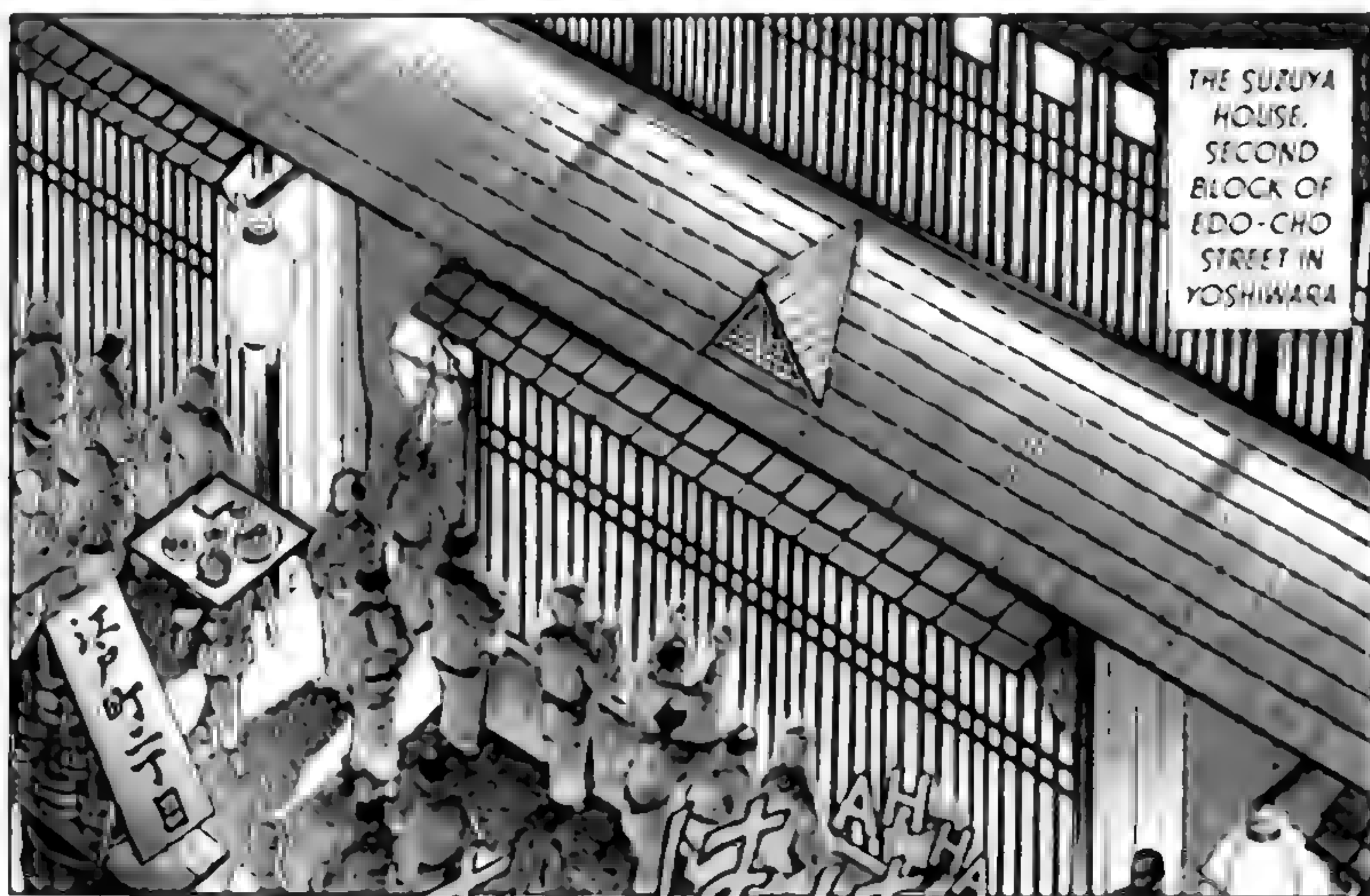




\*AFTER COMMODORE PERRY FORCED JAPAN TO OPEN UP IN 1853, THERE WERE TWO POLITICAL IDEOLOGIES THAT DIVIDED JAPAN: THOSE WHO THOUGHT THEY COULD DRIVE OUT THE FOREIGNERS, THE ANTI-FOREIGNER WING, AND THOSE WHO BELIEVED THEY COULD NOT AND THAT IT WAS BETTER TO ASSIMILATE AND OPEN UP THE COUNTRY, THE OPEN-COUNTRY WING.















IT'S A  
PLEASURE  
TO SEE YOU  
AGAIN.

MINAKATA-  
SENSEI,  
SAKAMOTO-  
SAMA...



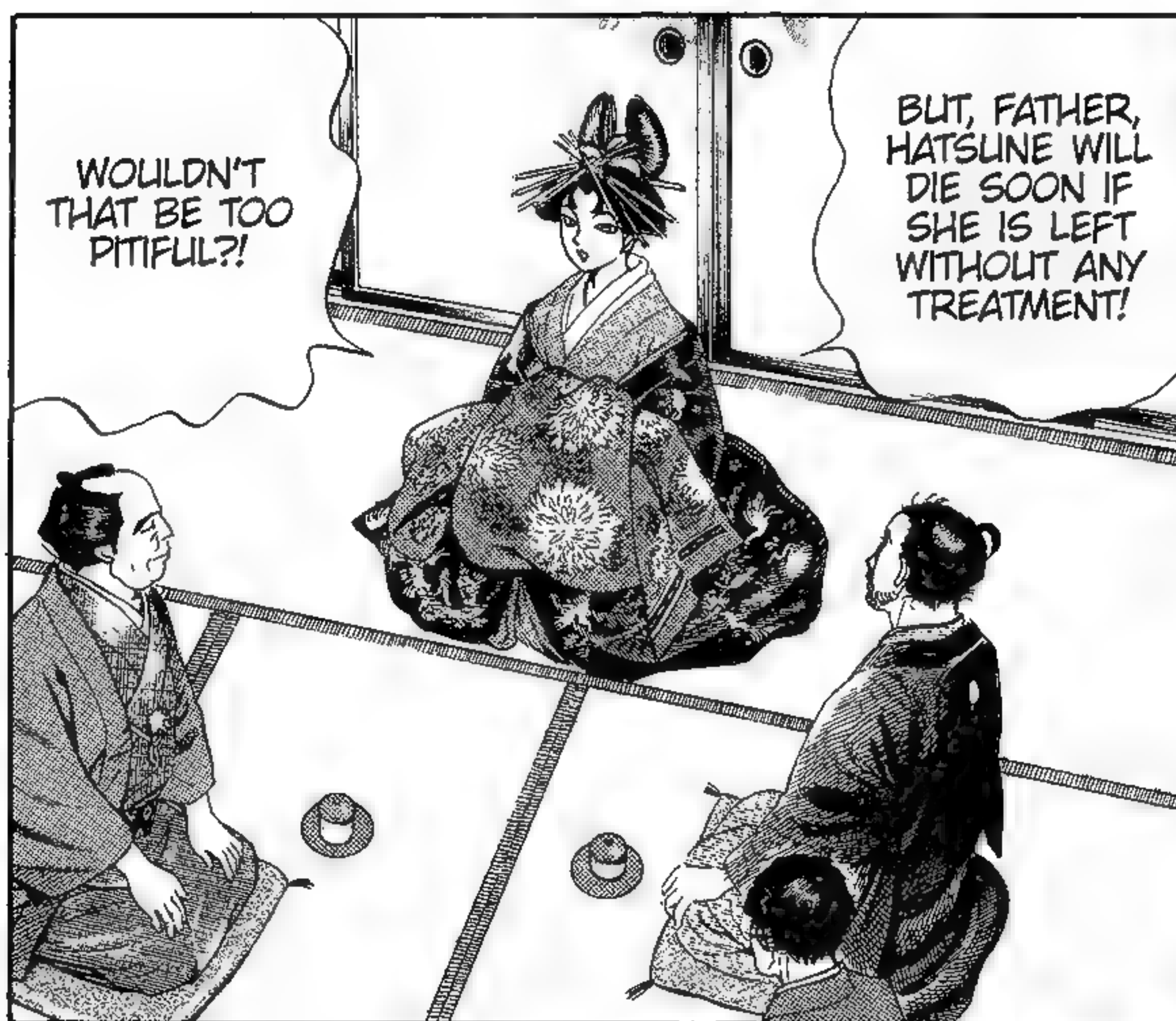
IT MUST BE A  
GODSEND THAT  
MINAKATA-SENSEI  
HAS COME AT  
THIS TIME...

I'VE HEARD THAT  
THE CONDITION OF  
HATSUNE FROM THE  
TAMAYA HOUSE IS  
QUITE SERIOUS AND  
THE DOCTORS HAVE  
GIVEN UP ON HER.



NOKAZE...  
WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING  
HERE?





WOULDN'T THAT BE TOO PITIFUL?!

BUT, FATHER, HATSUNE WILL DIE SOON IF SHE IS LEFT WITHOUT ANY TREATMENT!



NOKAZE, YOU CAN'T JUST ASK SUCH A BIG FAVOR OF HIM!



I BEG OF YOU, PLEASE SAVE HER!

SENSEI, SHE AND I HAVE BEEN FRIENDS EVER SINCE WE WERE CHILDREN. WE TOOK LESSONS WITH ONE ANOTHER AS FELLOW KAMURO APPRENTICES.



REALLY NOW, SENSEI... ?! WHY'S IT THAT THINGS GET SO SERIOUS EV'RY TIME WE COME 'ERE TO PLAY.



UNDERSTOOD! LET'S GO SEE HER RIGHT AWAY!

FWP









\*AN INFLAMMATION IN THE BODY'S BLOODSTREAM CAUSED BY AN OVERREACTION TO AN INFECTION.

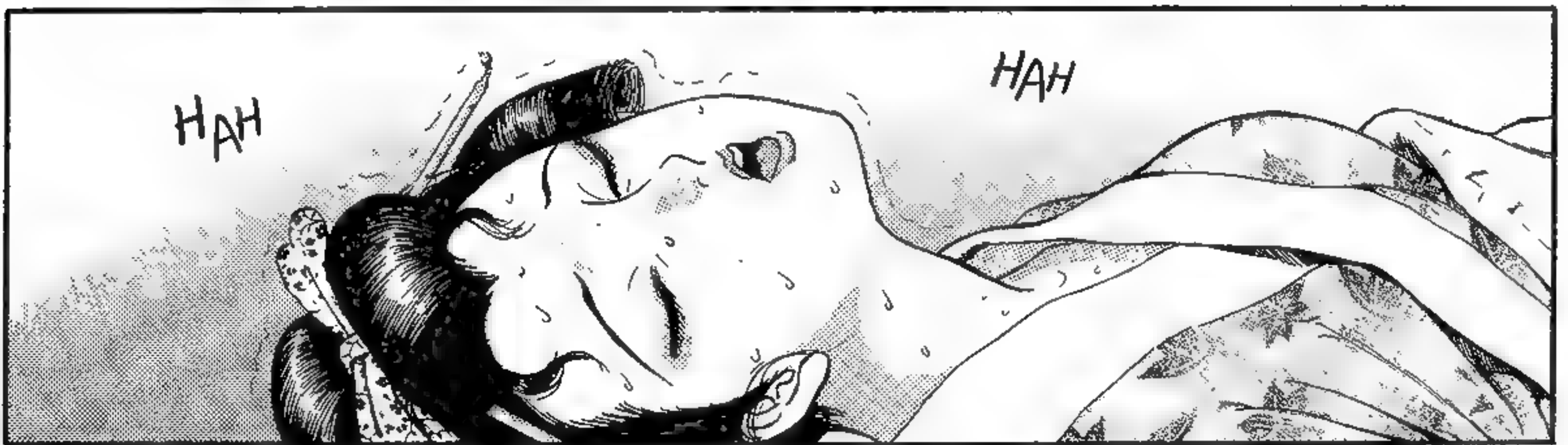
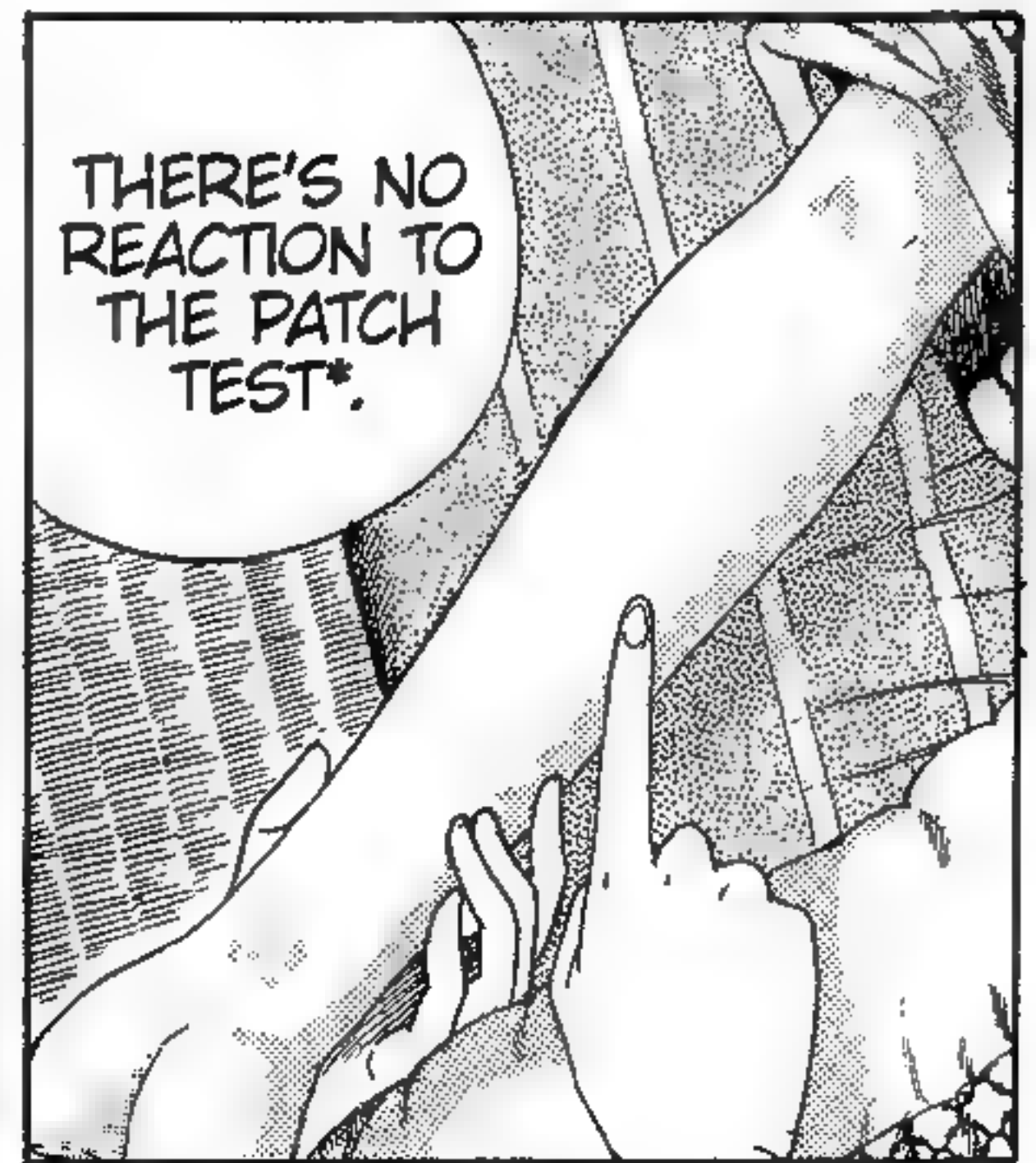








\*A TEST TO DETERMINE IF THE PATIENT IS ALLERGIC TO PENICILLIN.







MIDNIGHT,  
WHEN NIGHT  
BUSINESSES  
CLOSE



SAKI-SAN...  
LET'S STAY  
HERE UNTIL  
DAWN TO  
MONITOR  
HER.



YES, HER  
PULSE IS  
BECOMING  
STABLE AS  
WELL...



SENSEI,  
IT SEEMS  
HER FEVER  
HAS GONE  
DOWN A  
LITTLE.



OH! OOH!  
I'M DYING!



PLEASE...  
IT FEELS...  
SO GOOD!

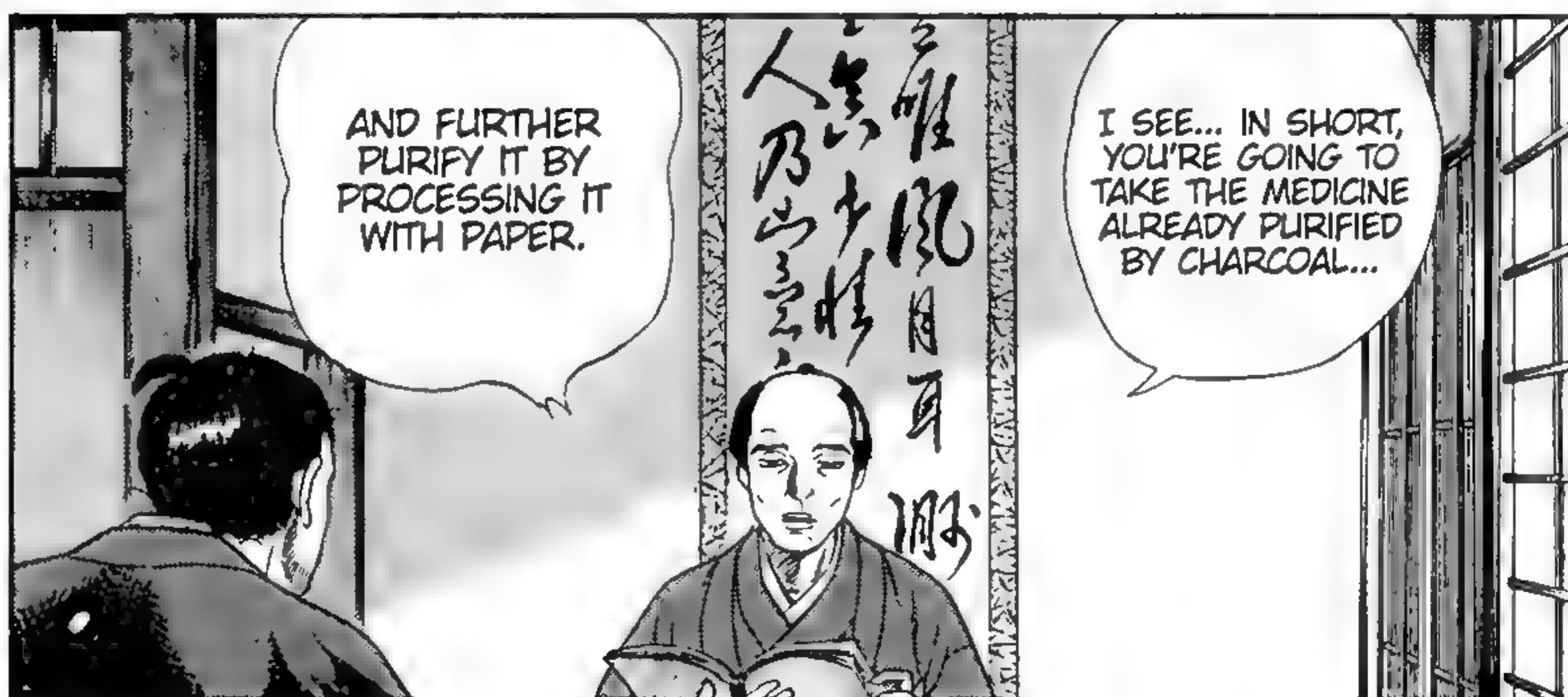


No...  
THAT'S  
TOO...











FROM THE RESULTS I'VE TESTED, I BELIEVE IT SHOULD WORK PROPERLY. BUT IF WE TO TAKE UP THIS ENDEAVOR, IT'LL REQUIRE A LARGE AMOUNT OF FOUR INCH PAPER SHEETS AND A LOT OF MANPOWER.

YES. IT'S CALLED PAPER CHROMATOGRAPHY IN ENGLISH.

**GIHE (GORYO)  
HAMAGUCHI,**

OWNER OF YAMASA, A SOY SAUCE COMPANY BASED IN CHOSHI, AND A DISCIPLE OF SHOZAN SAKUMA, SCHOLAR OF DUTCH STUDIES (KAISHU KATSU WAS ALSO A DISCIPLE OF SAKUMA.) HAMAGUCHI CONTRIBUTED TO VARIOUS KINDS OF SOCIAL WORKS INCLUDING MEDICINE.

HMM...

I HOPE THAT YOU UNDERSTAND HOW MUCH 400 RYO IS WORTH...

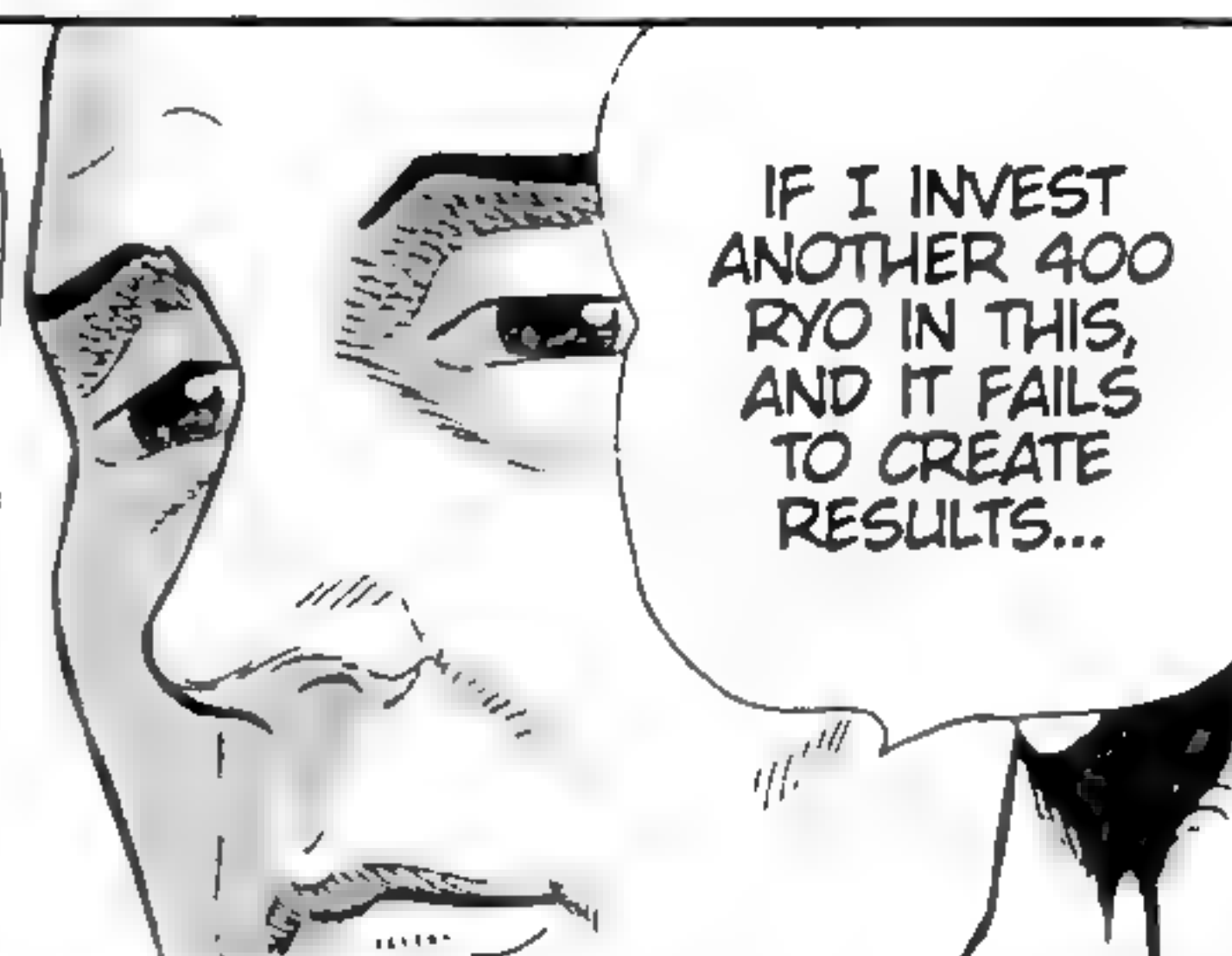
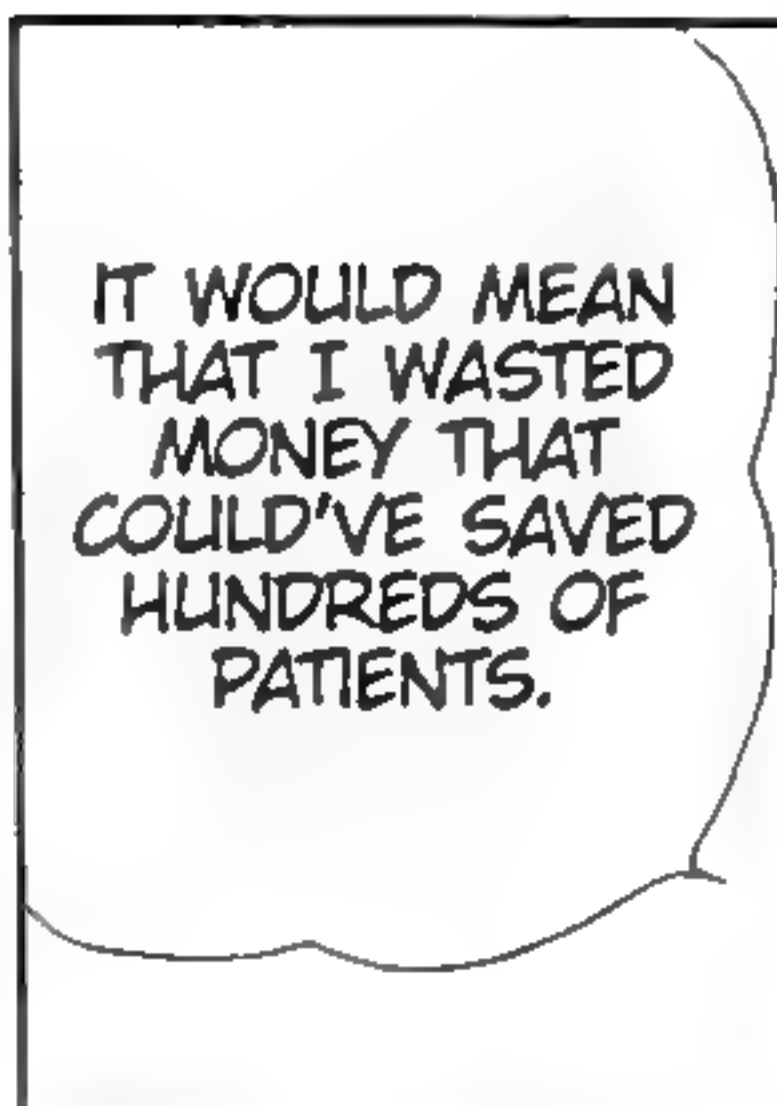
WHEN THE VACCINATION CENTER (FORMER WESTERN MEDICAL INSTITUTE) BURNT DOWN, THE FIRST DONATION I MADE TO REBLUID IT WAS 300 RYO.

IT WOULD REQUIRE AT LEAST 400 RYO FOR FUNDING.

FROM WHAT I SEE IN THIS PROPOSAL, EVEN WITH A ROUGH ESTIMATE...

400 RYO?!





...

IT WOULD MEAN  
THAT I WASTED  
MONEY THAT  
COULD'VE SAVED  
HUNDREDS OF  
PATIENTS.

IF I INVEST  
ANOTHER 400  
RYO IN THIS,  
AND IT FAILS  
TO CREATE  
RESULTS...



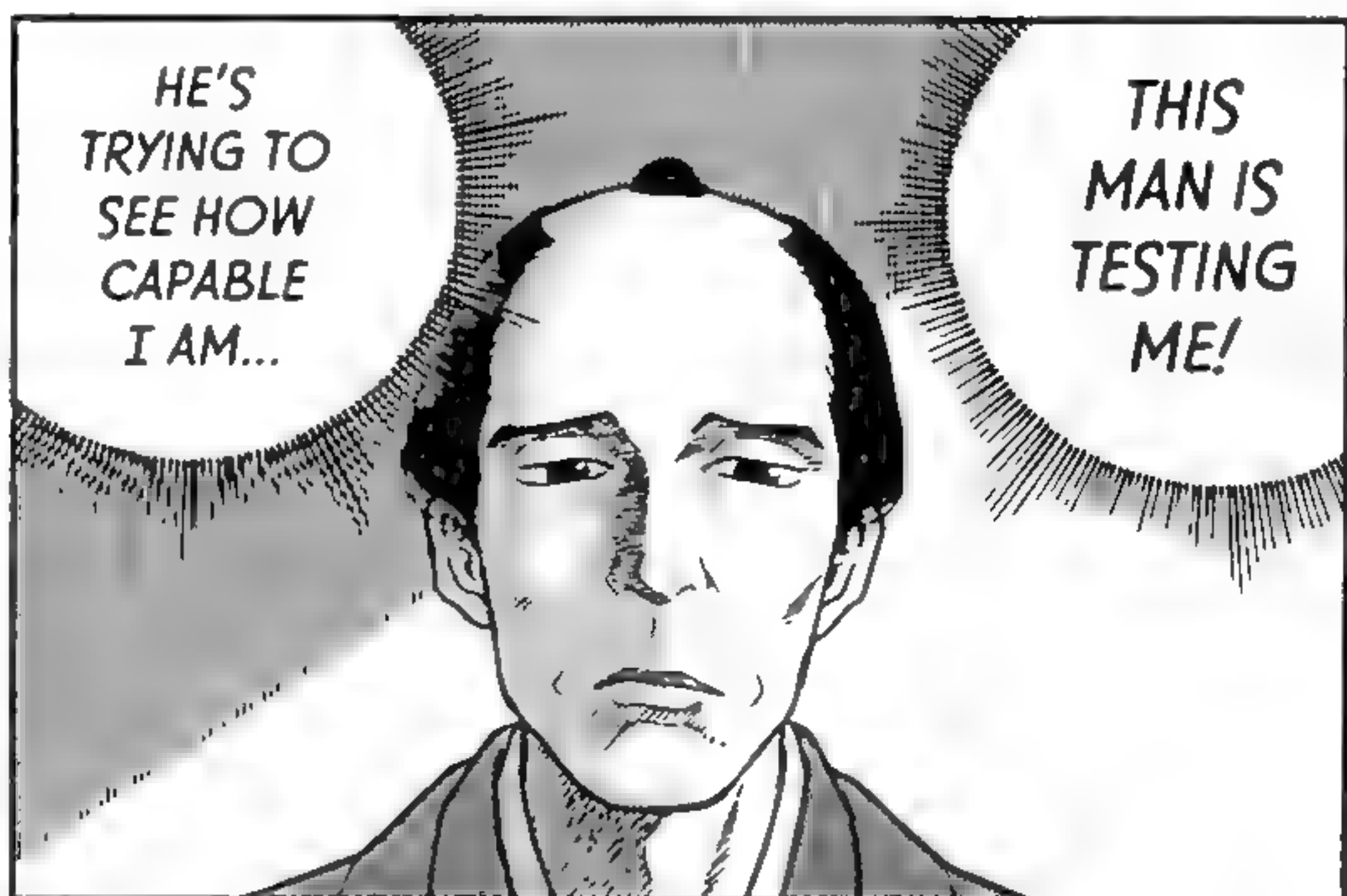
BUT BEYOND  
THAT... IF YOU  
REALLY WISH  
TO SAVE THE  
PATIENT, MAY  
I ASK YOU TO  
COLLECT THE  
FUNDS ON  
YOUR OWN?

I'M AWARE THAT  
ONE PERSON'S  
LIFE HANGS ON  
THIS... YOU CAN  
CONTINUE TO USE  
THE HOUSE AND  
THE WORKERS  
AS YOU HAVE  
THUS FAR.



I'LL TRY  
TO DO  
THAT!

YES...



HE'S  
TRYING TO  
SEE HOW  
CAPABLE  
I AM...

THIS  
MAN IS  
TESTING  
ME!





HOW D'YA  
PLAN TO RAISE  
THAT MUCH  
MONEY?!

F-FOUR  
HUNDRED  
RYO?!



I HAVE  
NO IDEA YET.  
THAT'S WHY  
I CAME HERE  
TO ASK YOU.

SHHH!



FOR NOW, I'VE  
DELAYED THE  
PROGRESSION  
BY GIVING HER  
THE PENICILLIN  
WE HAVE...

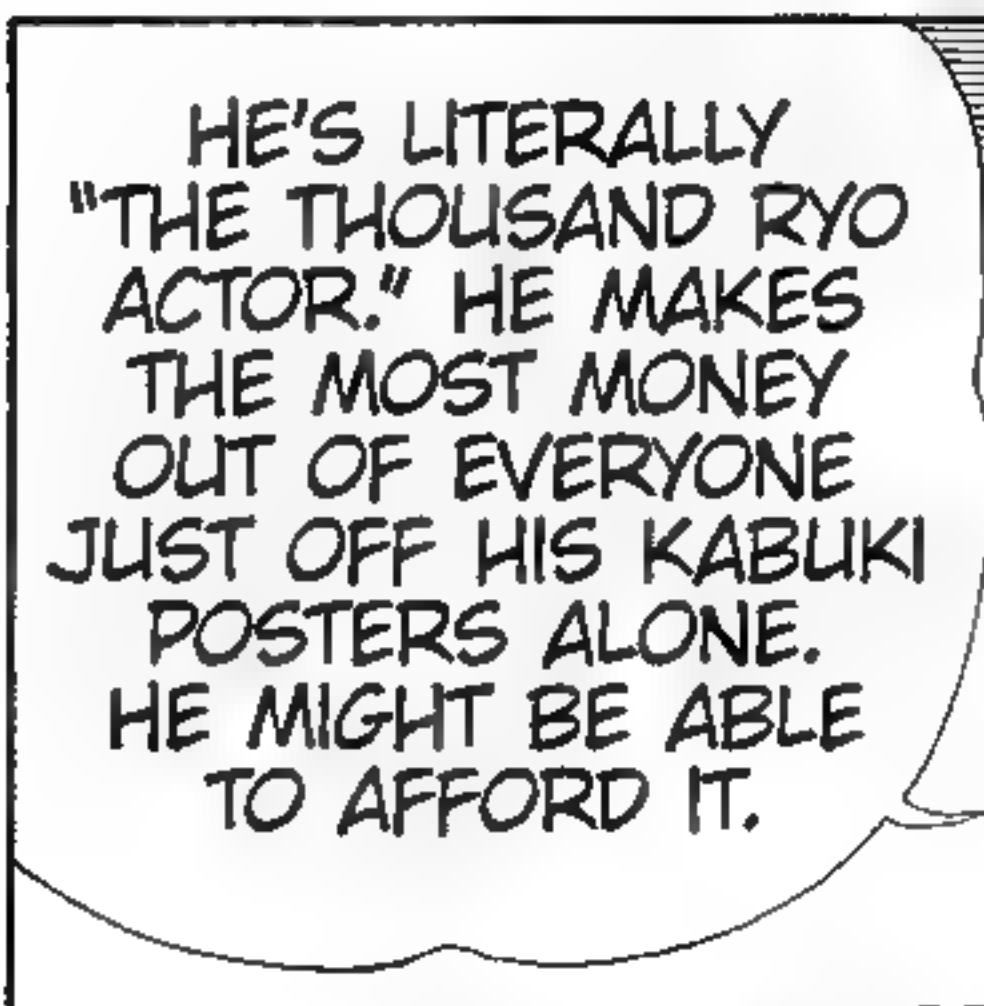
IF HER CONDITION  
BECOMES CRITICAL,  
SHE COULD START  
HEMORRHAGING  
ALL OVER UNDER  
HER SKIN, AND HER  
ORGANS WOULD  
STOP FUNCTIONING,  
CAUSING HER  
TO DIE.



IT'S NOT THE KINDA  
MONEY THAT THE  
TAMAYA HOUSE WOULD  
SPEND ON JUS' SAVIN'  
A SINGLE OIRAN  
(COURTESAN EITH'R...

HMM...  
WHAT'A WE DO  
NOW THAT GIHE  
HAMAGUCHI HAS  
REJECTED YER  
PLEA...?







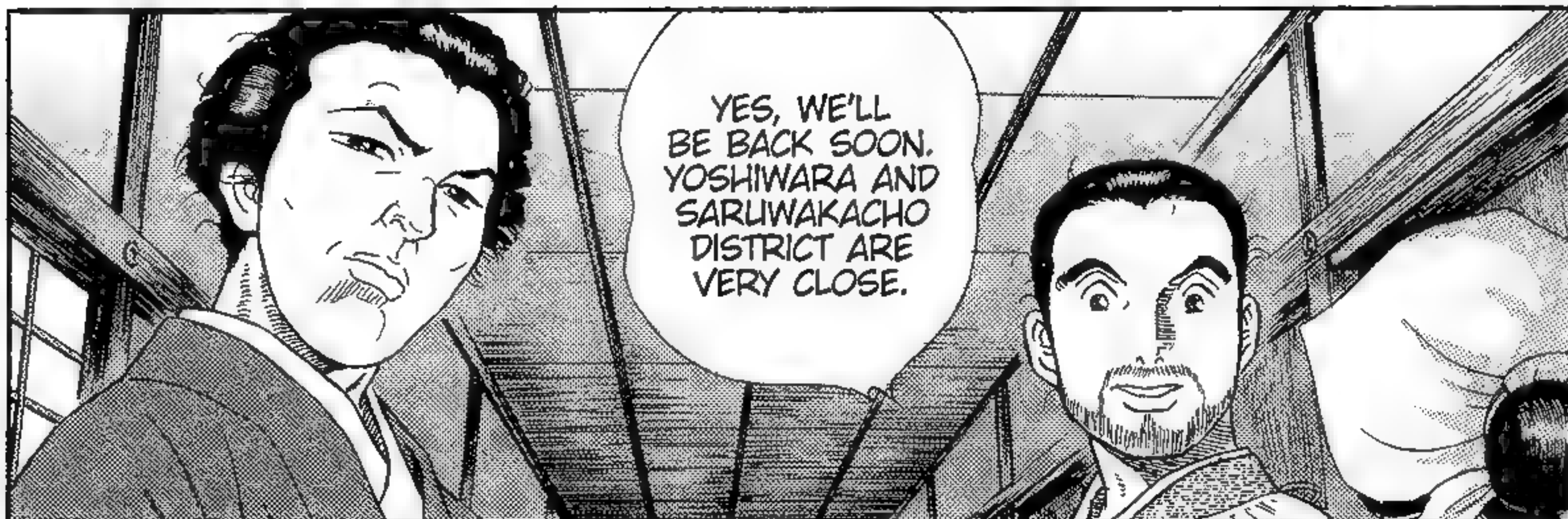


IS IT  
GOING TO  
BE JUST  
THE TWO  
OF YOU?



LET'S GO  
AND TALK  
TO HIM  
SINCERELY!

I UNDERSTAND.  
IT'S ABOUT A  
LIFE THAT WE  
MIGHT BE ABLE  
TO SAVE IF WE  
CAN ATTAIN  
THE MONEY.



YES, WE'LL  
BE BACK SOON.  
YOSHIWARA AND  
SARUWAKACHO  
DISTRICT ARE  
VERY CLOSE.



OTHER THAN  
THAT, I CAN'T  
REALLY DO MUCH  
WITHOUT YOUR  
INSTRUCTIONS...

YOU'RE RIGHT...  
UH, I'LL JUST TAKE  
CARE OF WIPING DOWN  
THE PATIENT'S BODY  
AND CHANGING HER  
DIAPERS...



...!



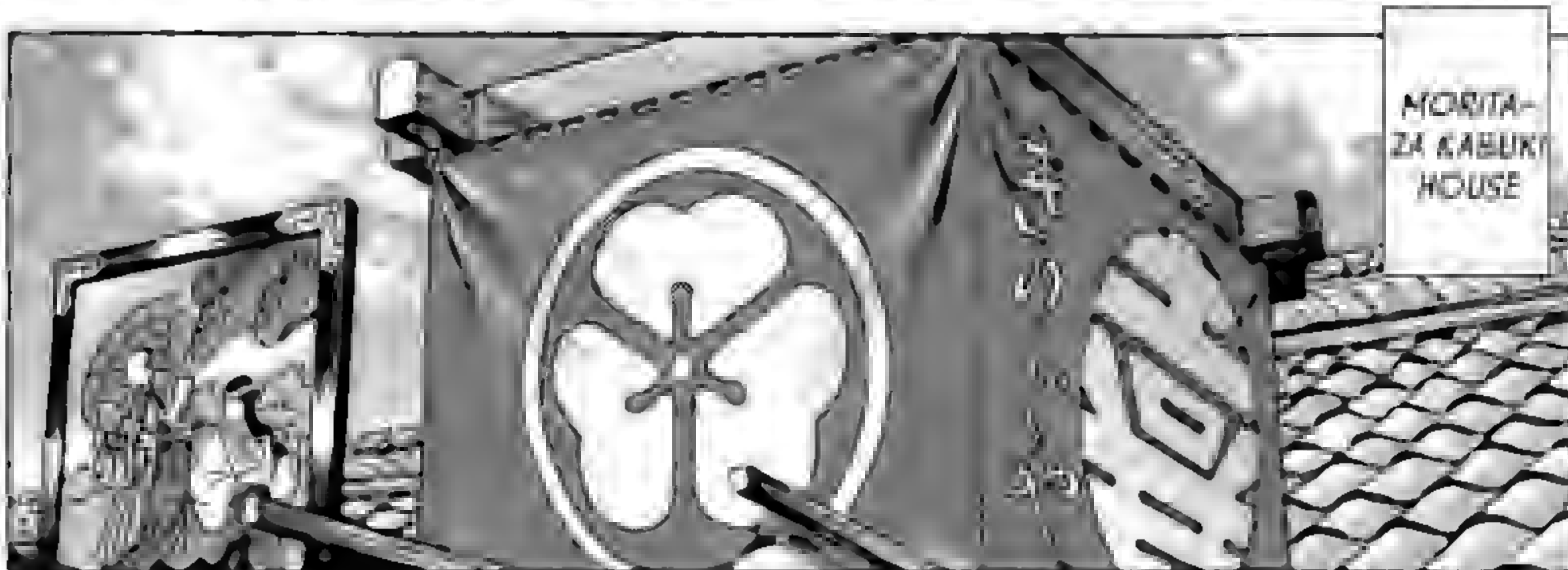
SO I WAS  
HOPING I'D AT  
LEAST GET  
A GLIMPSE  
OF HIM ON  
STAGE...

MY MOTHER  
FOUND THE KABUKI  
POSTER OF TANOSUKE  
MY FRIEND GAVE ME  
AND RIPPED IT UP...

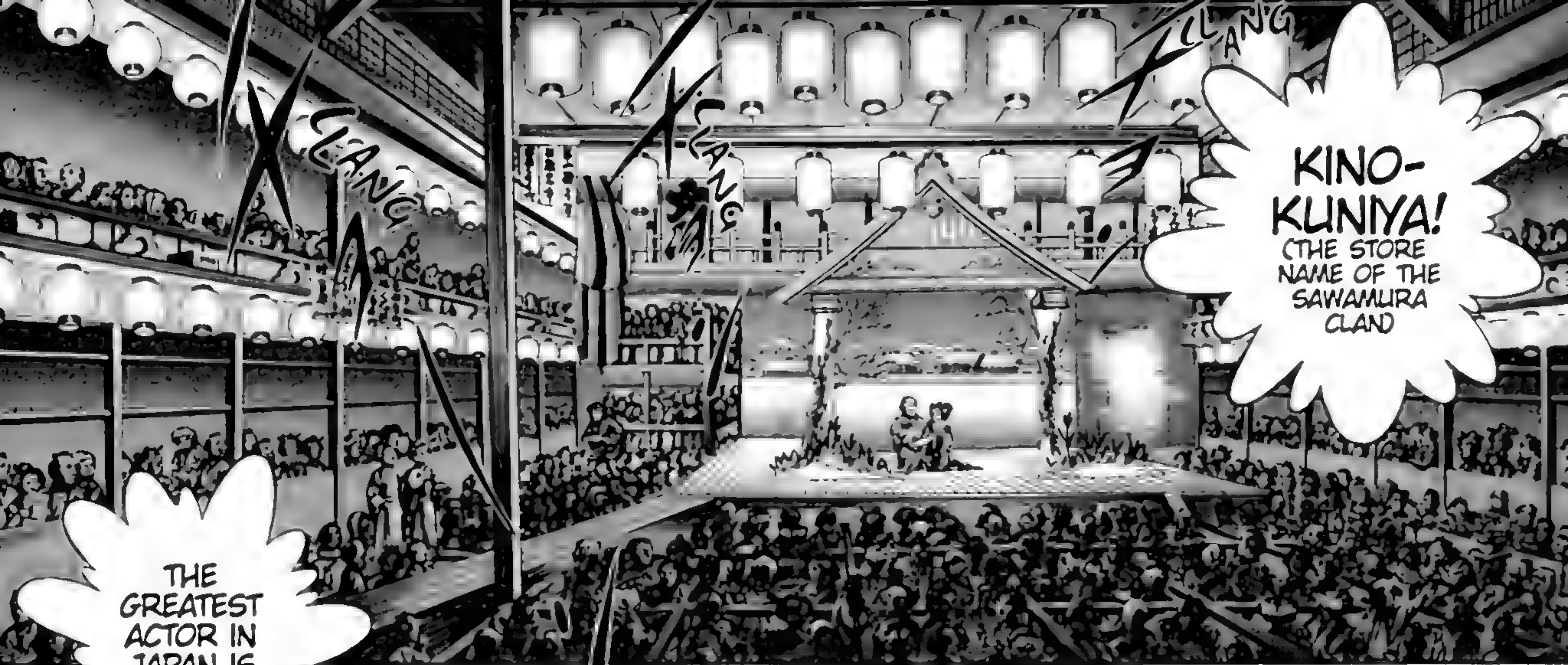


HUH...?  
WHAT  
IS IT?









KINO-KUNIYA!  
(THE STORE  
NAME OF THE  
SAWAMURA  
CLAND)

THE  
GREATEST  
ACTOR IN  
JAPAN IS  
HERE!!



yawn











WE NEED  
QUITE A LOT  
OF MONEY  
RIGHT AWAY  
TO MAKE THE  
NEW MEDICINE,  
AND YOU'RE  
THE ONLY ONE  
WE CAN ASK  
FOR IT.

THAT'S CORRECT.  
ALTHOUGH I KNOW  
THAT YOU TWO ARE  
JUST A CUSTOMER  
AND A COURTESAN...  
AND THE ABORTED  
BABY MAY OR MAY  
NOT HAVE BEEN  
YOURS.



AND YOU  
THINK SUCH  
A LARGE SUM  
OF MONEY IS  
JUST SITTING  
AROUND  
HERE...?

400  
RYO...



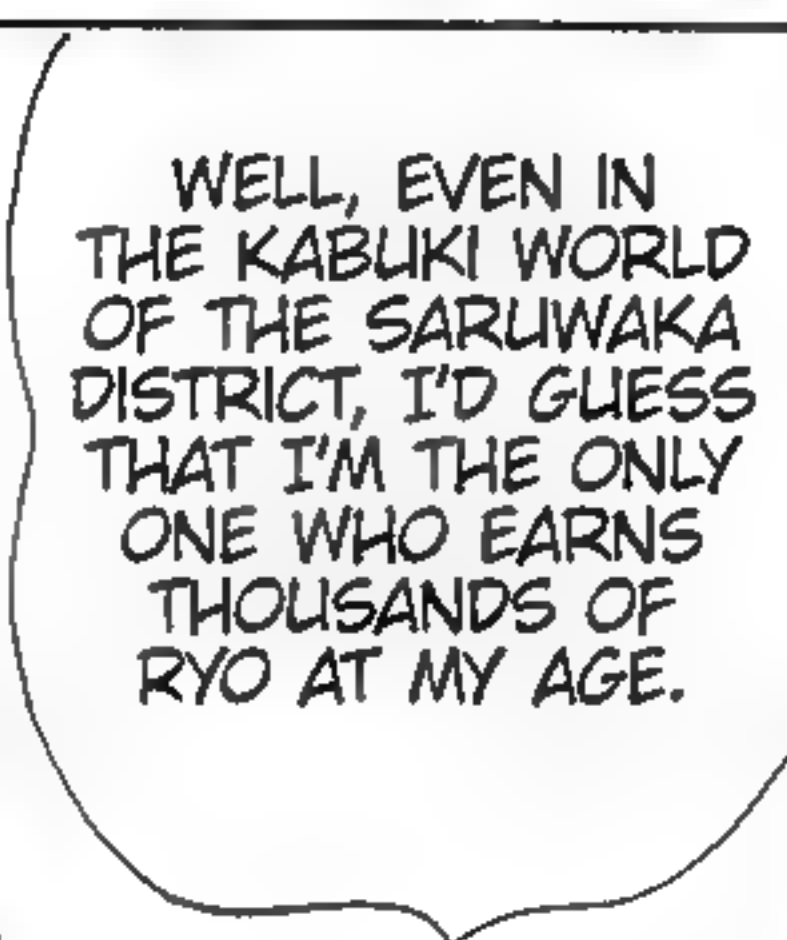
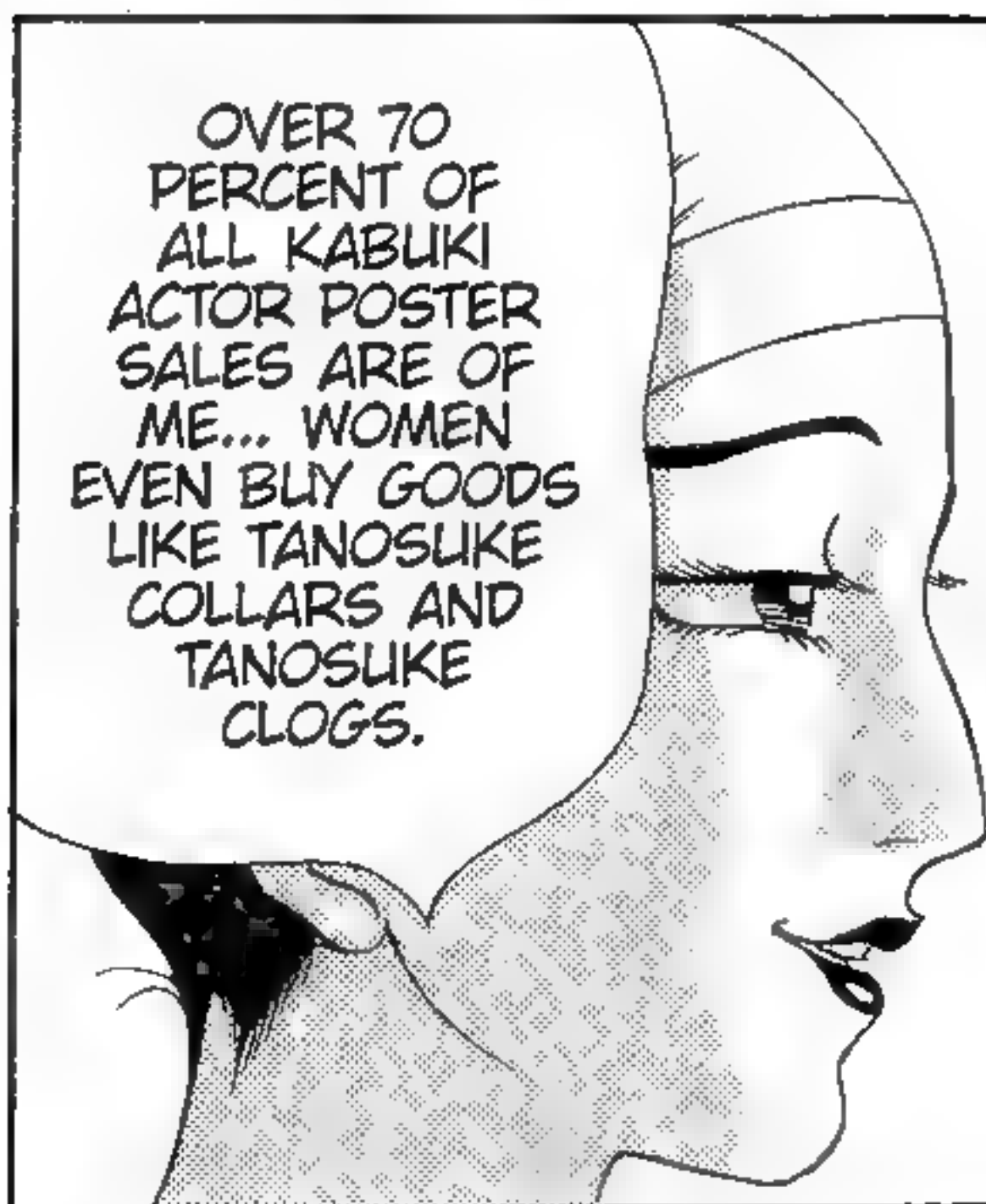
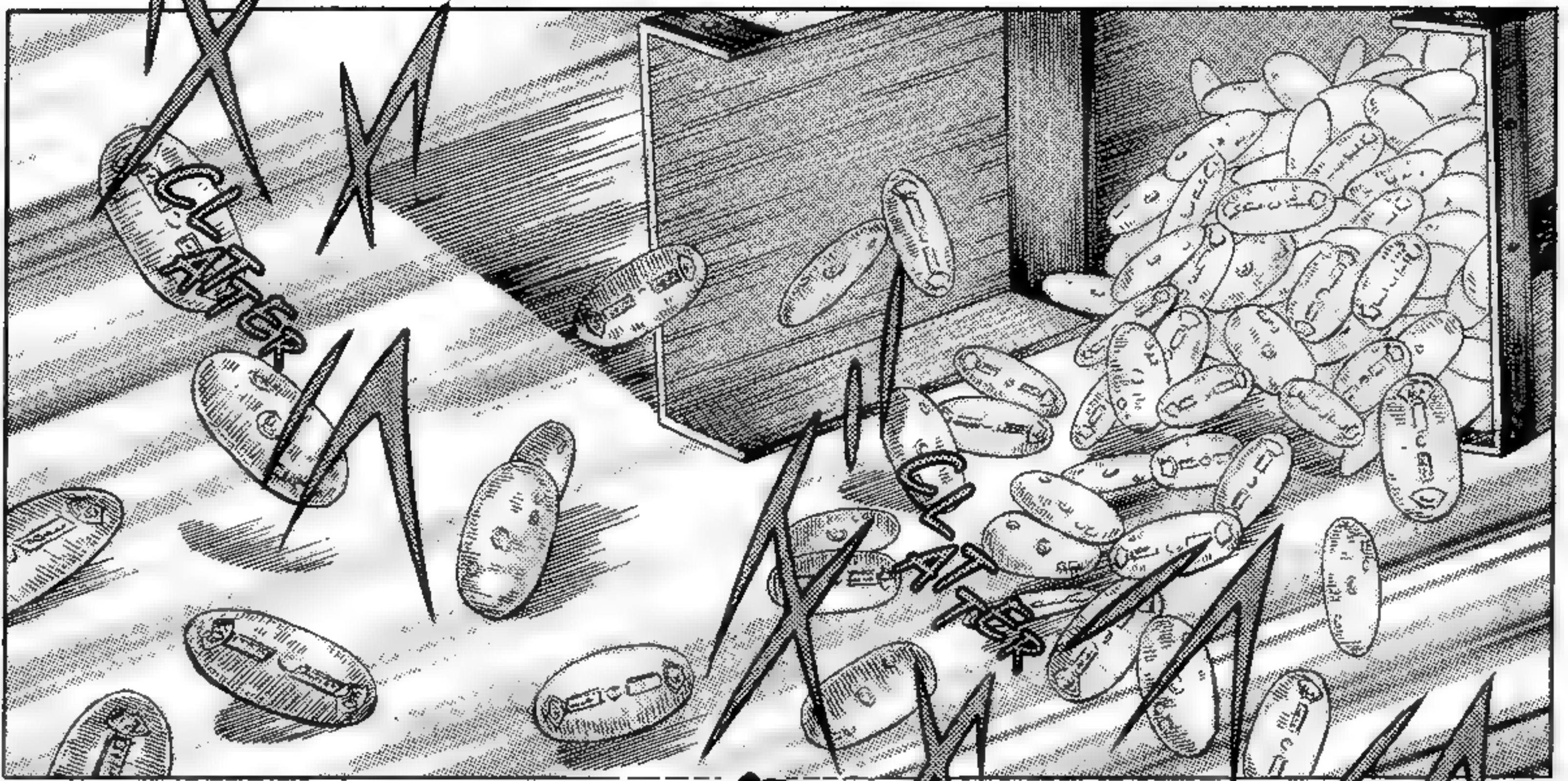
HOW  
MUCH  
DO YOU  
NEED?



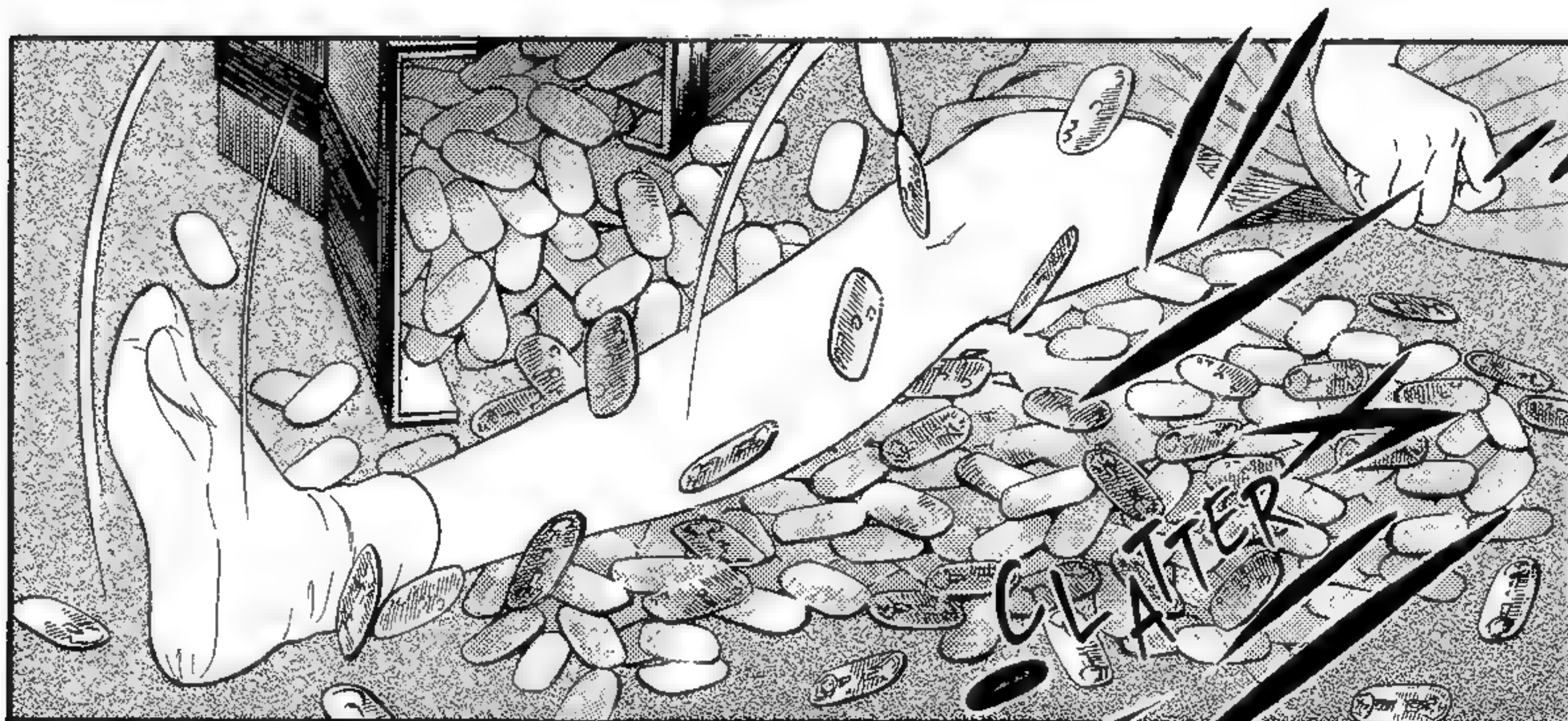
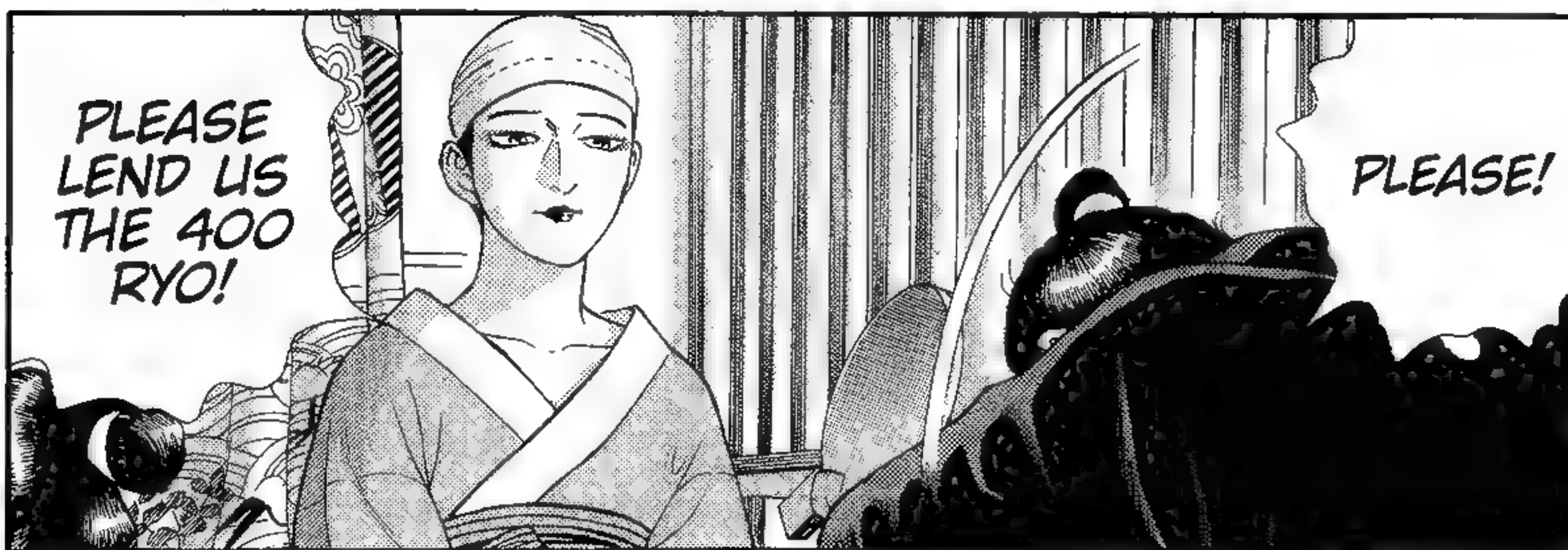
ABOUT  
400  
RYO...

WELL...

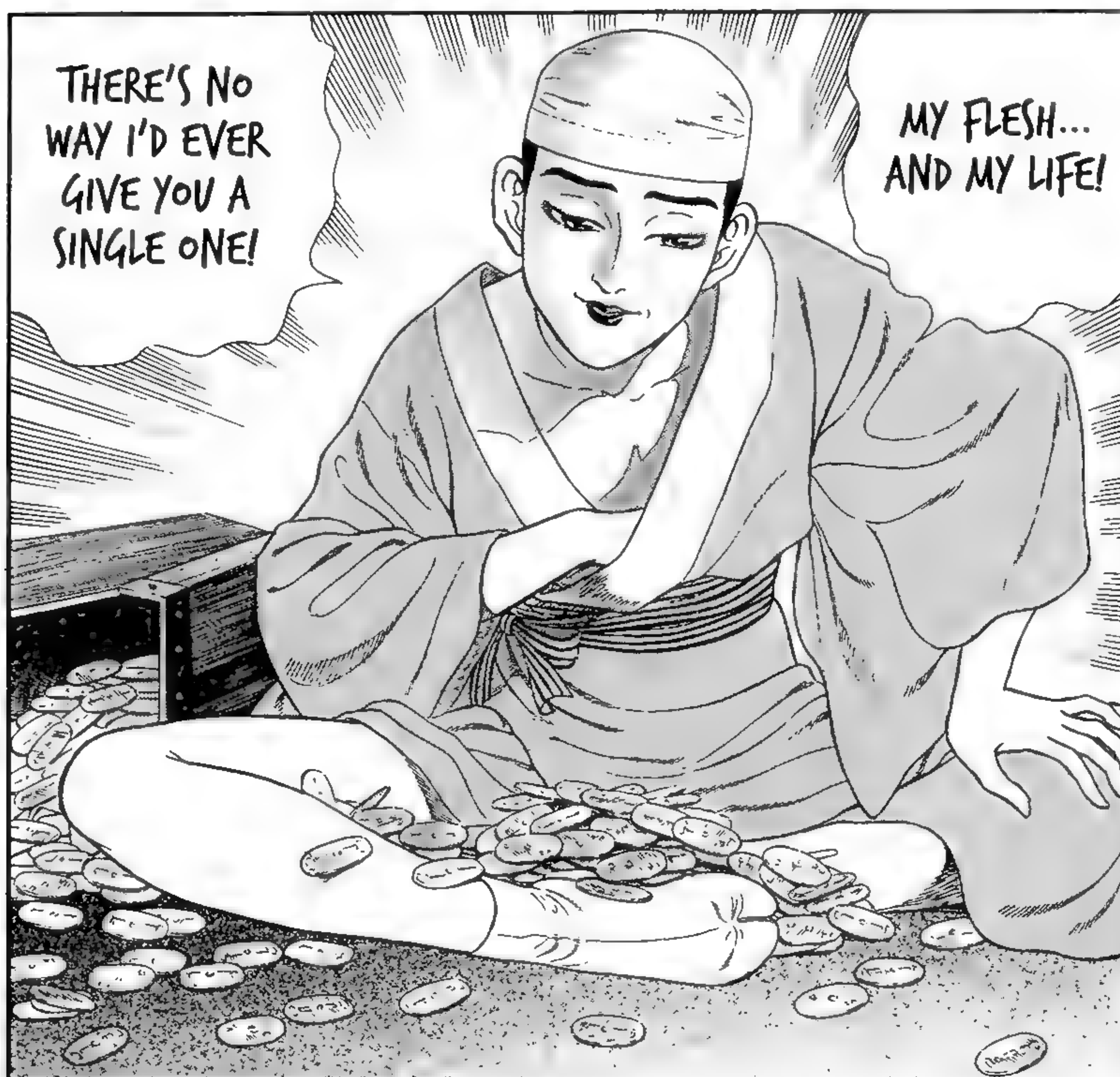
















THESE ARE  
MY SWEAT,  
MY BLOOD...



THERE'S NO  
WAY I'D EVER  
GIVE YOU A  
SINGLE ONE!

MY FLESH,  
AND MY  
LIFE...



BUT IF  
HATSUNE-SAN  
ISN'T GIVEN THE  
NEW MEDICINE  
IMMEDIATELY,  
SHE WILL MOST  
CERTAINLY DIE!

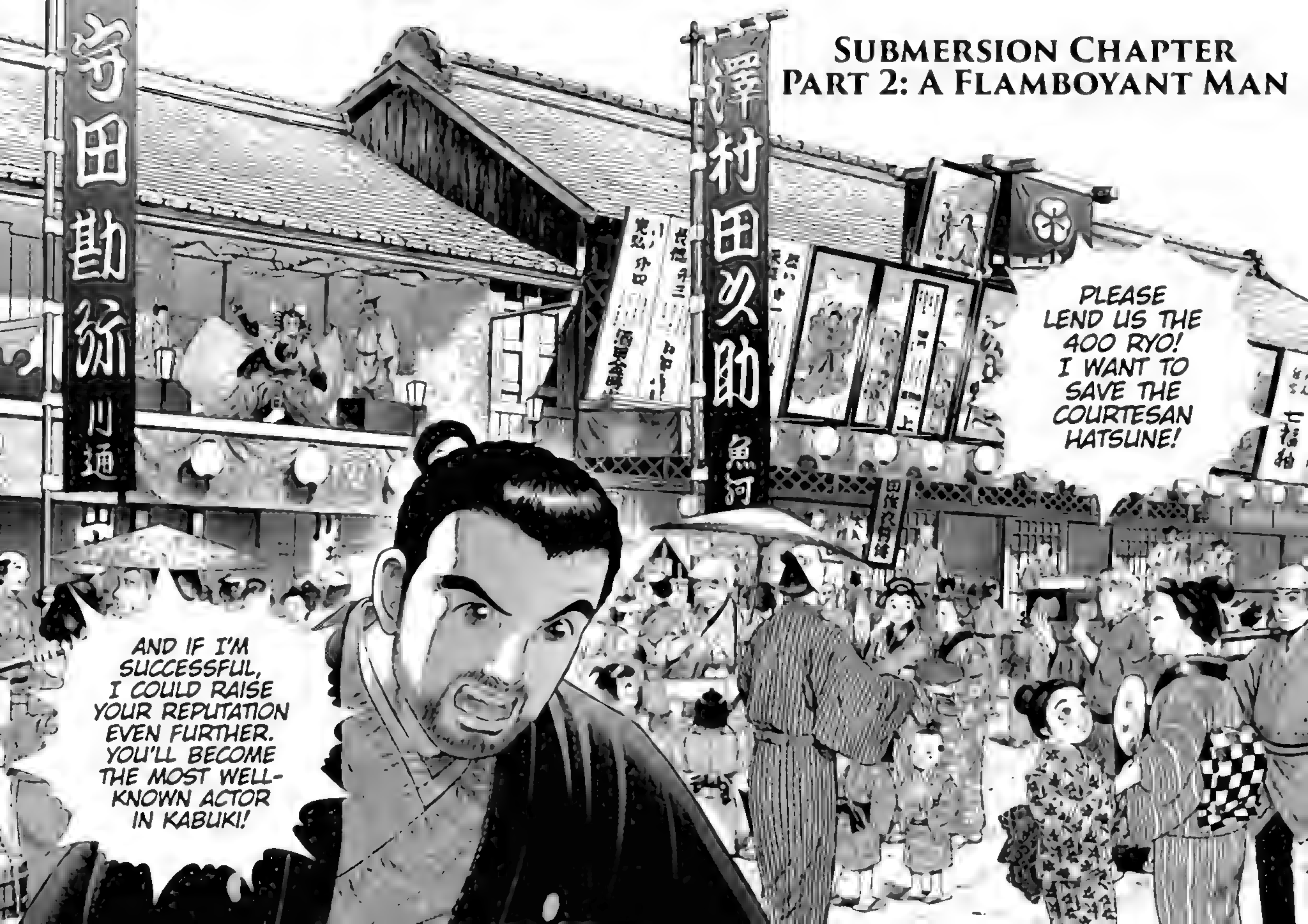
TANOSUKE-SAN,  
I KNOW THIS  
MONEY IS VERY  
IMPORTANT  
TO YOU.



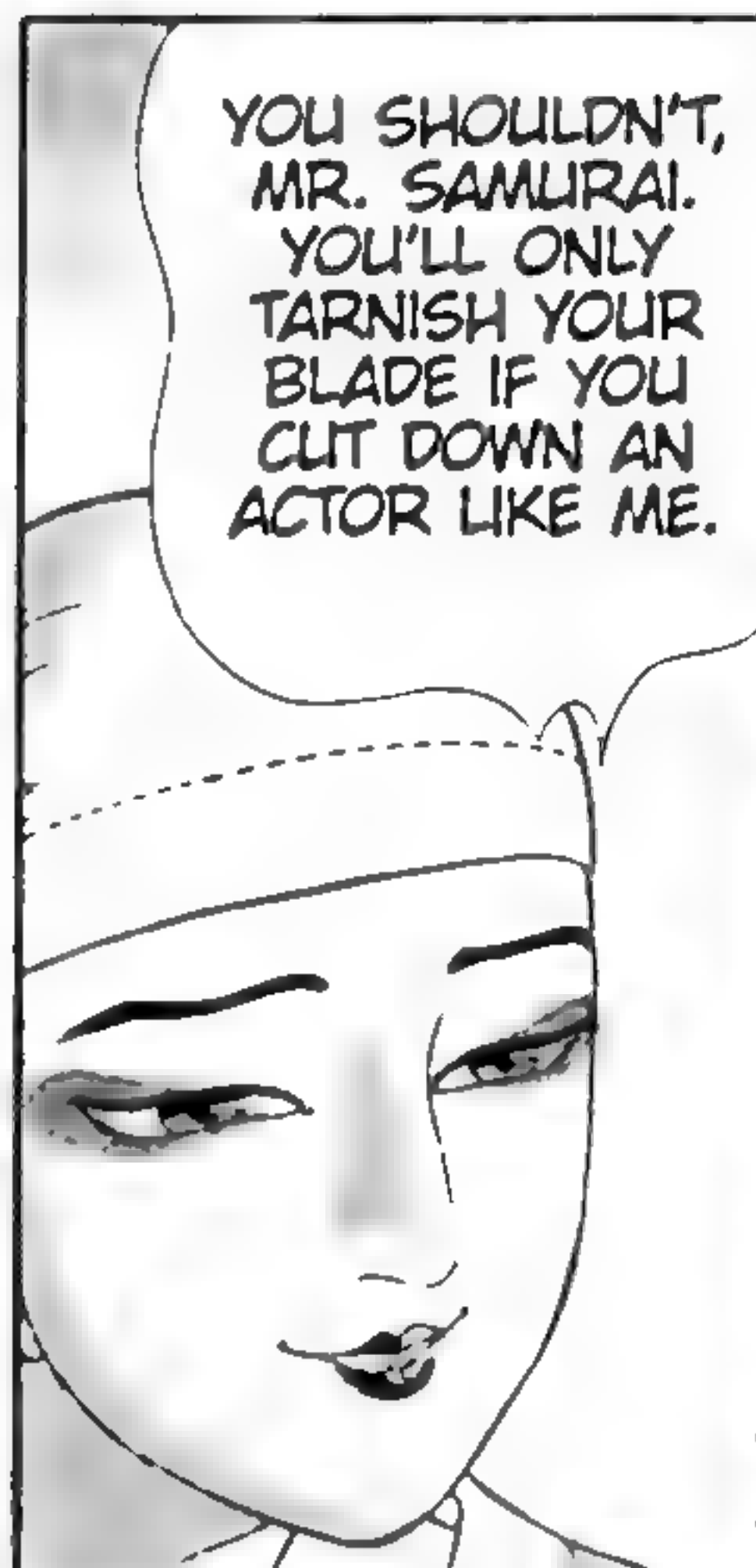
# SUBMERSION CHAPTER PART 2: A FLAMBOYANT MAN

PLEASE  
LEND US THE  
400 RYO!  
I WANT TO  
SAVE THE  
COURTESAN  
HATSUNE!

AND IF I'M  
SUCCESSFUL,  
I COULD RAISE  
YOUR REPUTATION  
EVEN FURTHER.  
YOU'LL BECOME  
THE MOST WELL-  
KNOWN ACTOR  
IN KABUKI!











PROSPECTIVE ACTORS ENTERTAIN MONKS AND SUCH AS KAGEMA WHILE THEY ARE YOUNG BOYS THERE.

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE DISTRICT THAT'S LINED WITH THE KAGEMA (MALE PROSTITUTE) TEA HOUSES?



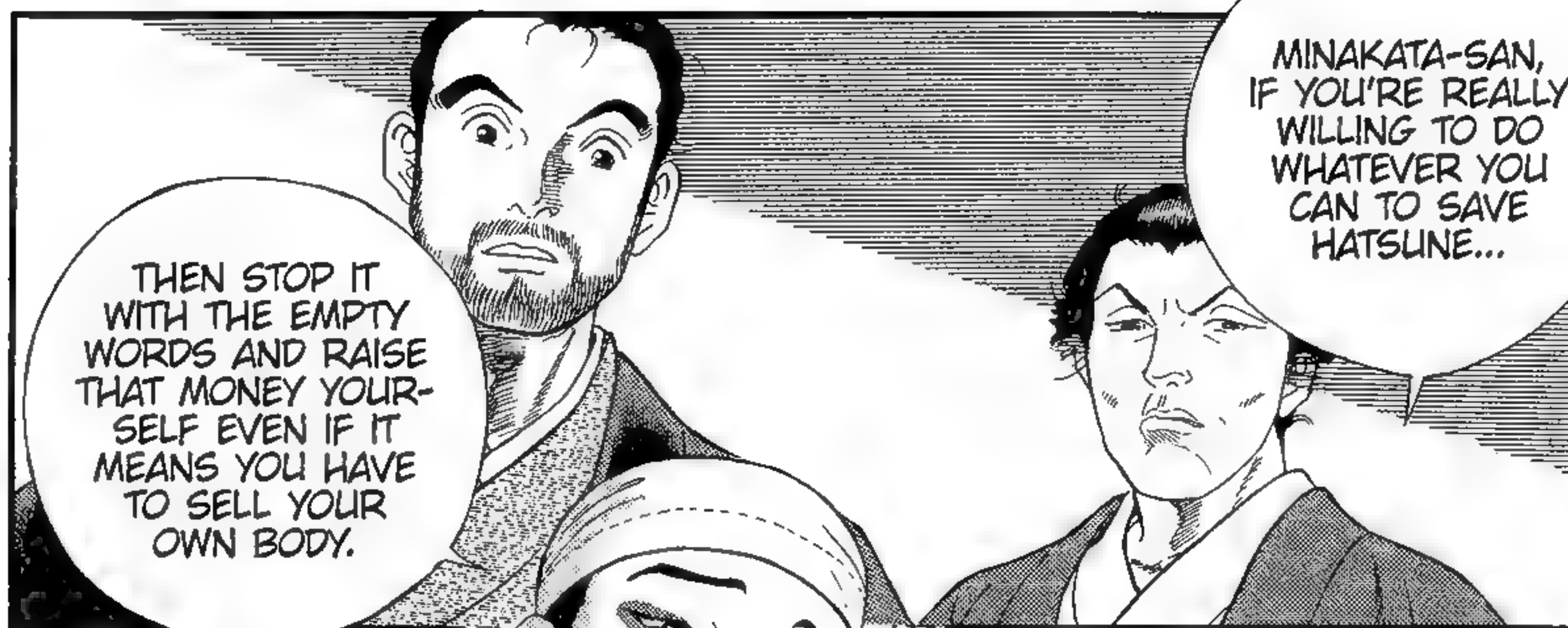
ONCE THEY'RE 20, THEY ENTERTAIN WIDOWS AND MISTRESSES OF THE WEALTHY WHO ARE LONELY AND CRAVE COMPANY.



I HAVE NO ISSUE AT ALL BREAKING ANY RULE IF IT'S IN THE NAME OF POLISHING MY SKILLS.

NO MATTER HOW MUCH OIRAN COURTESANS MAY BELITTLE US ACTORS, IT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT WE'RE BIRDS OF A FEATHER.





THEN STOP IT  
WITH THE EMPTY  
WORDS AND RAISE  
THAT MONEY YOUR-  
SELF EVEN IF IT  
MEANS YOU HAVE  
TO SELL YOUR  
OWN BODY.

MINAKATA-SAN,  
IF YOU'RE REALLY  
WILLING TO DO  
WHATEVER YOU  
CAN TO SAVE  
HATSUNE...

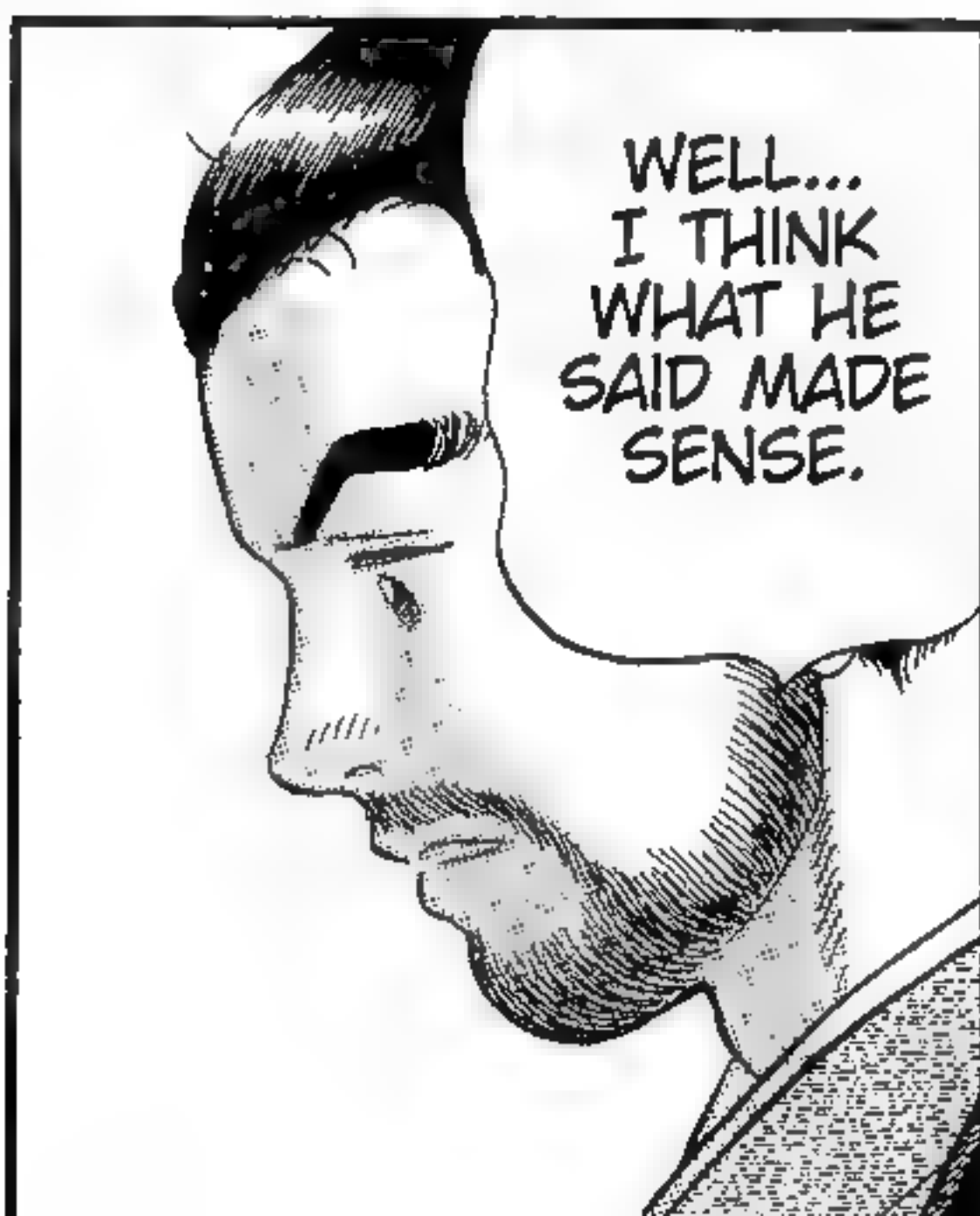


NOT THAT I'VE  
HEARD OF ANYONE  
BUYING A DOCTOR  
THOUGH!



I NEVER  
IMAGINED  
THAT HE'D  
BE THAT  
KIND OF  
PERSON.

I FEEL BAD  
FOR HAVING  
SUGGESTED  
THIS...



WELL...  
I THINK  
WHAT HE  
SAID MADE  
SENSE.



THAT BASTARD!  
ALL HE'D DONE  
WAS JUS' GO ON  
'BOU HIMSELF!

WHAT A MISER!  
HE WON'T EVEN  
GIVE US A COIN  
FER THE LIFE OF  
HIS OWN WOMAN!

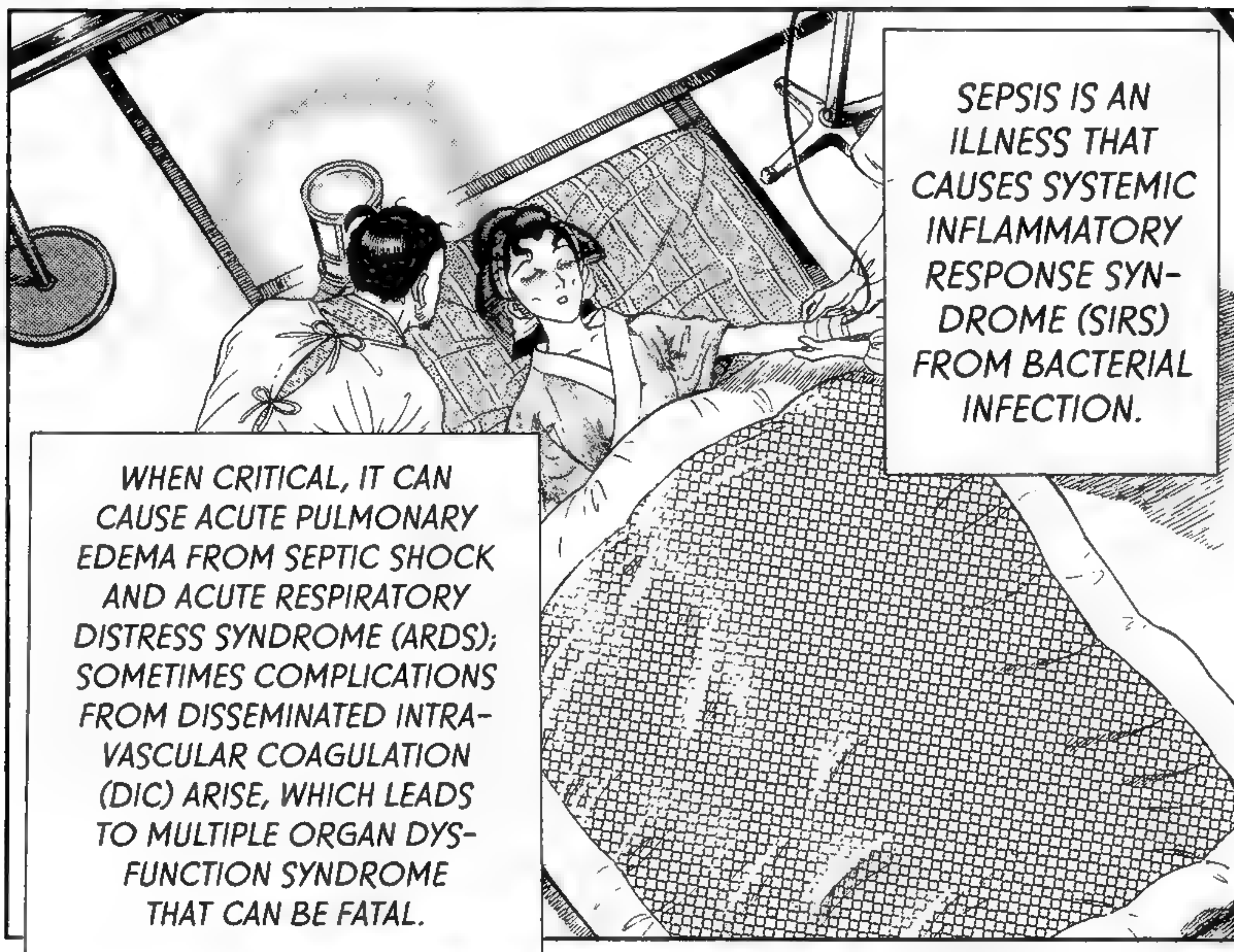
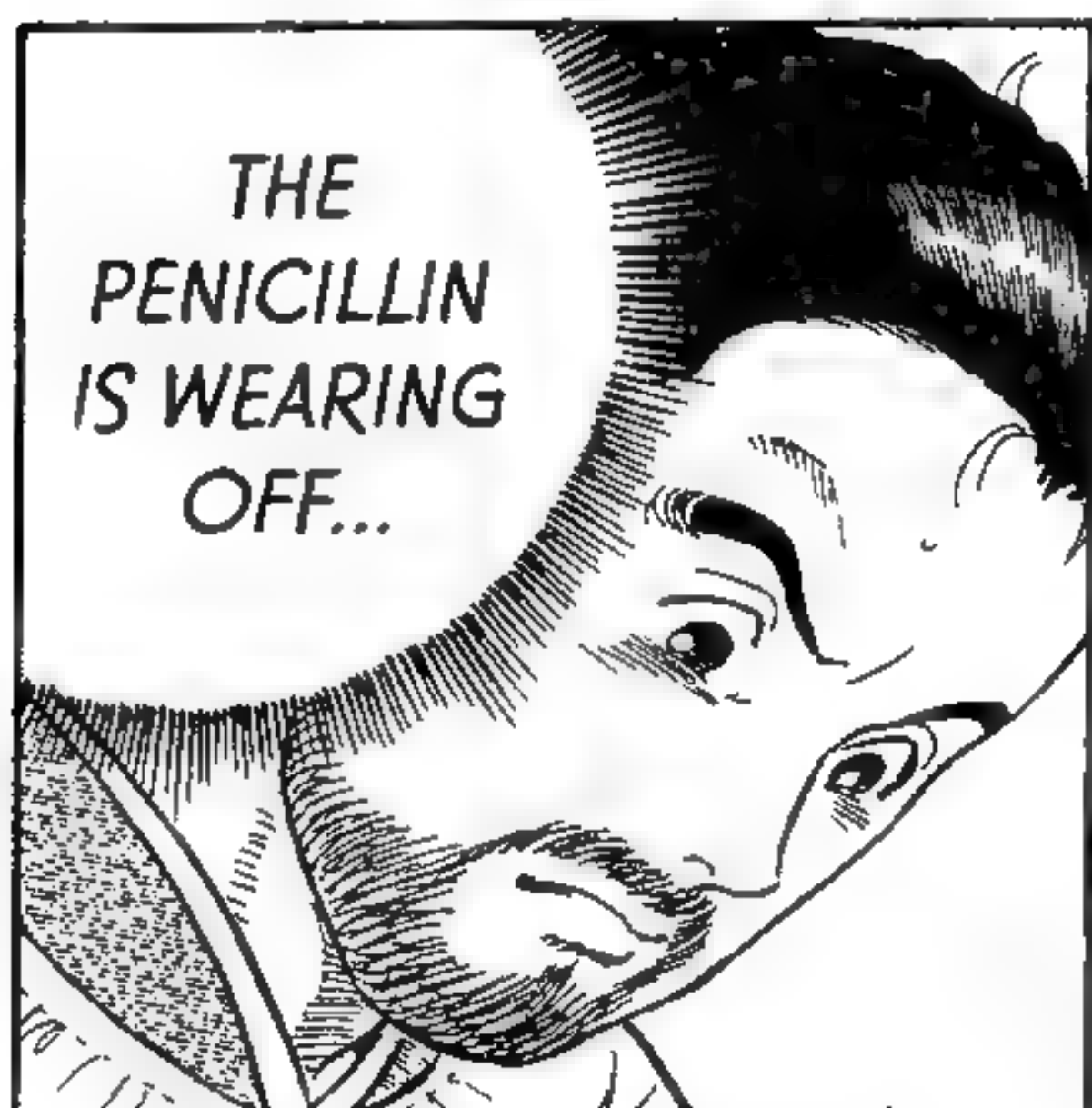




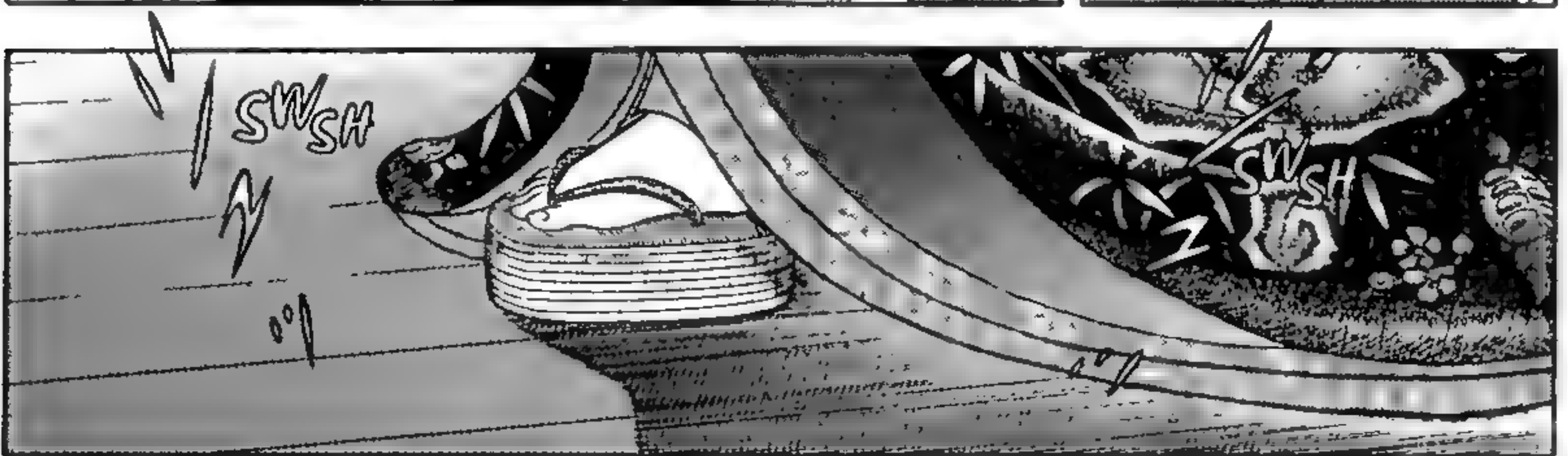
















50 RYO?!



HERE IS 50 RYO.

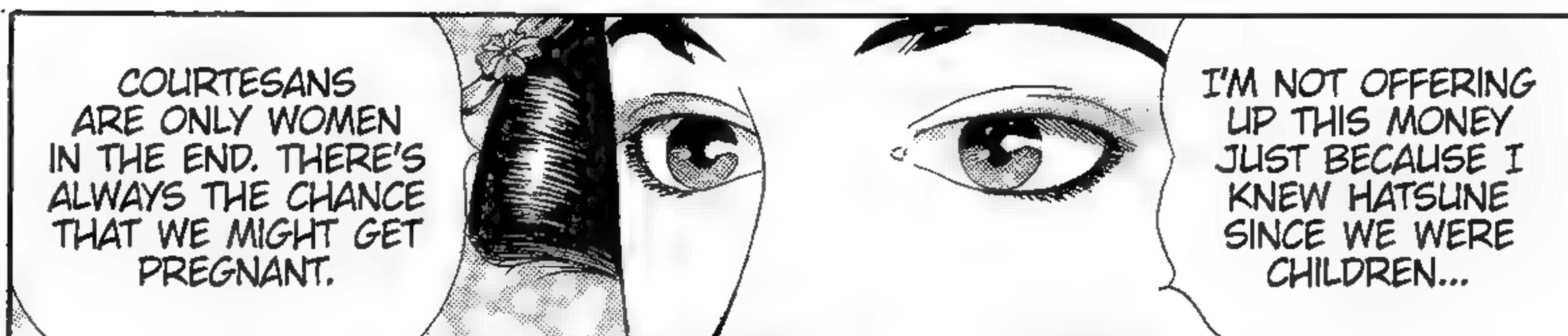
PLEASE MAKE USE OF THIS HERE.



NO, NOT YET...

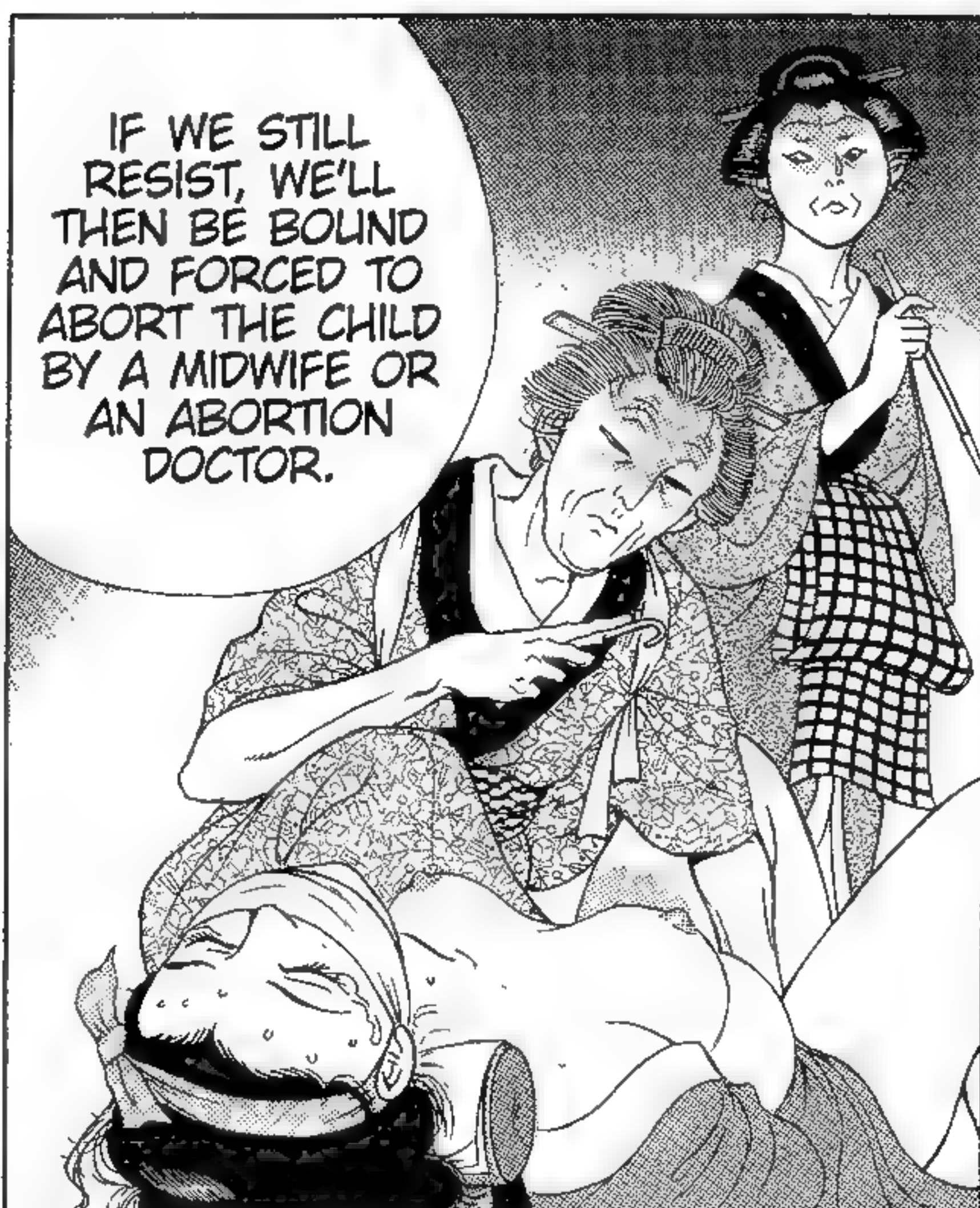


I CAN SEE THAT YOU'RE NOT USED TO THAT KIND OF BUSINESS.

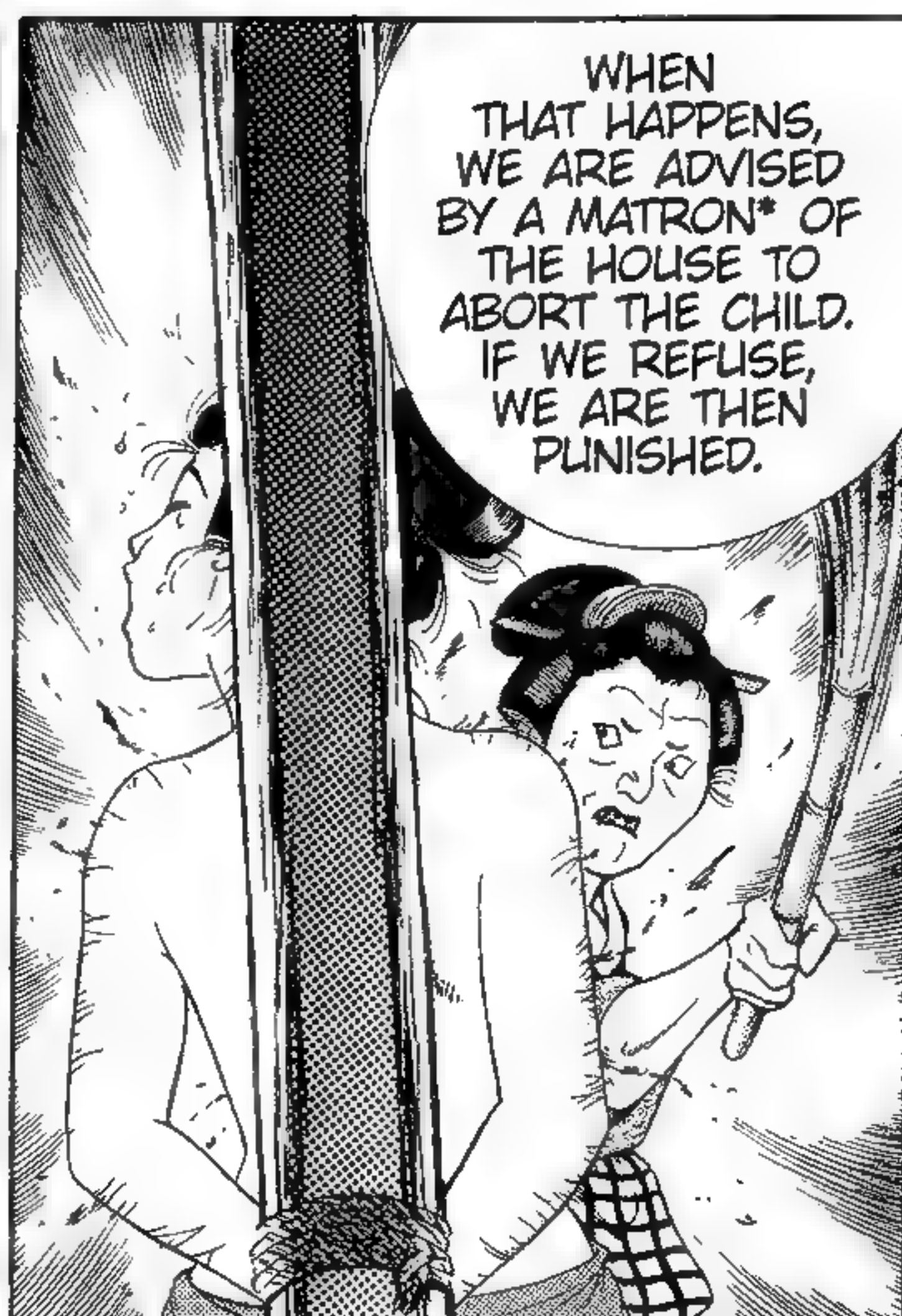


COURTESANS ARE ONLY WOMEN IN THE END. THERE'S ALWAYS THE CHANCE THAT WE MIGHT GET PREGNANT.

I'M NOT OFFERING UP THIS MONEY JUST BECAUSE I KNEW HATSUNE SINCE WE WERE CHILDREN...




IF WE STILL RESIST, WE'LL THEN BE BOUND AND FORCED TO ABORT THE CHILD BY A MIDWIFE OR AN ABORTION DOCTOR.



WHEN THAT HAPPENS, WE ARE ADVISED BY A MATRON\* OF THE HOUSE TO ABORT THE CHILD. IF WE REFUSE, WE ARE THEN PUNISHED.






AND I... NO,  
ALL COURTESANS  
IN YOSHIWARA LIVE  
IN FEAR OF THAT.

THERE ARE MANY  
COURTESANS WHO  
LOSE THEIR LIVES  
AS A RESULT...




GO ON.  
PLEASE  
ACCEPT  
THIS...



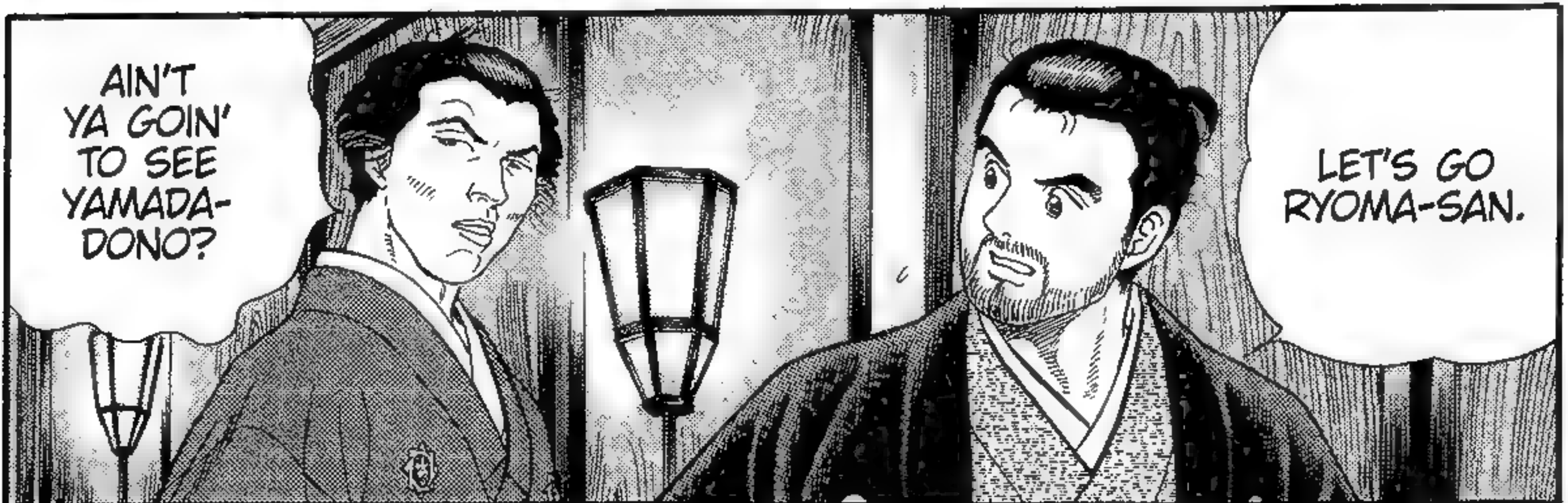
IF YOU ARE ABLE  
TO SAVE HATSUNE,  
THE COURTESANS  
OF YOSHIWARA  
WILL BE WILLING  
TO BE EXAMINED  
THIS TIME.

I'VE HEARD  
THAT THE  
NEW MEDICINE  
WILL ALSO  
WORK AGAINST  
SYPHILIS.

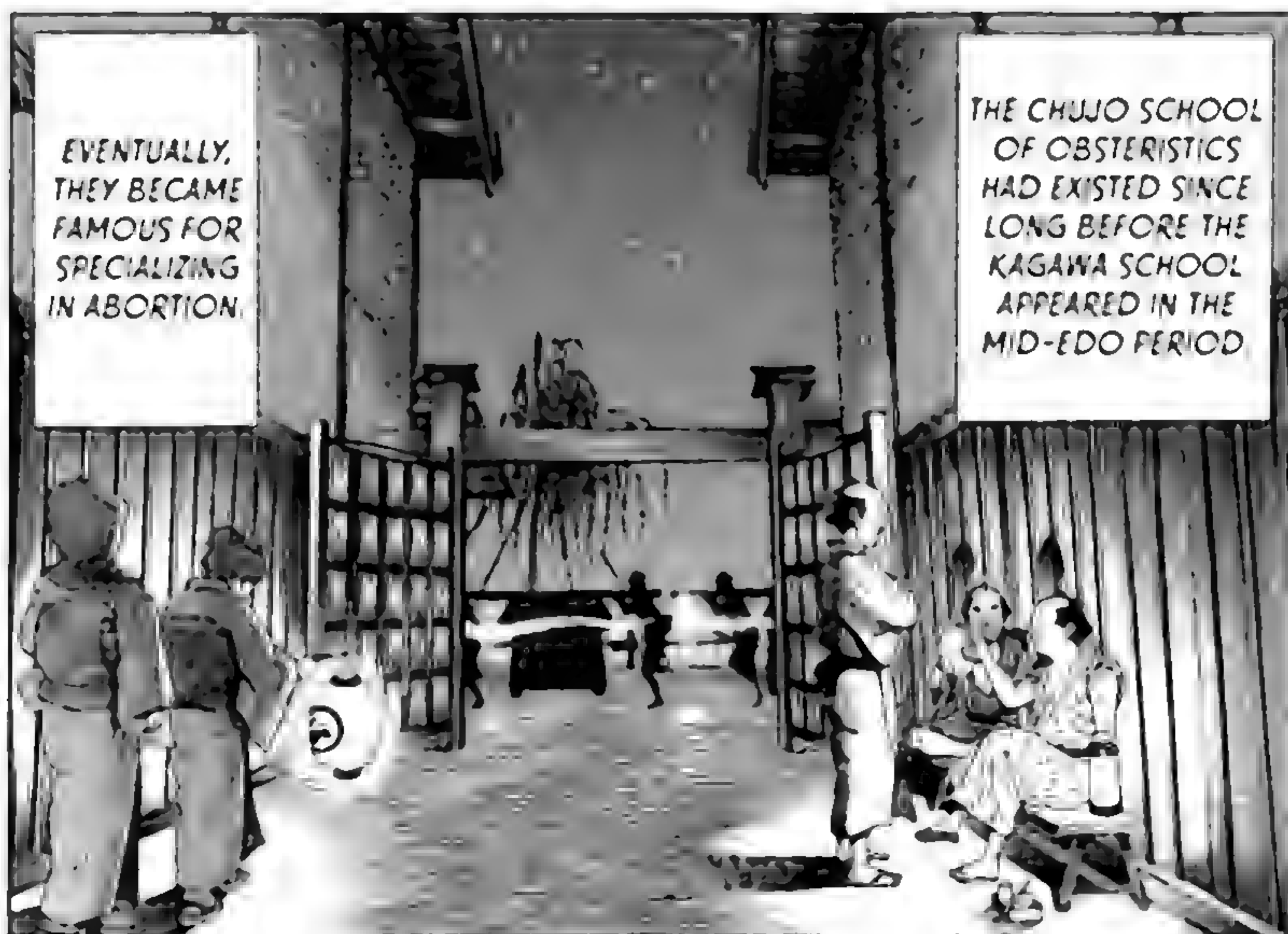


NOKAZE-  
SAN...









EVENTUALLY,  
THEY BECAME  
FAMOUS FOR  
SPECIALIZING  
IN ABORTION.

THE CHUJO SCHOOL  
OF OBSTERISTICS  
HAD EXISTED SINCE  
LONG BEFORE THE  
KAGAWA SCHOOL  
APPEARED IN THE  
MID-EDO PERIOD



IN REALITY,  
THE CHUJO  
SCHOOL NEVER  
HAD A LACK OF  
CUSTOMERS. THEIR  
ADVERTISEMENTS  
COULD BE SEEN  
EVEN IN COMMUNAL  
TOILETS IN THE  
ROW HOUSES

THE SHOGUNATE OF  
EDO PROHIBITED  
ABORTION PUBLICLY  
HOWEVER, DUE TO  
THE LACK OF MEANS  
OF CONTRACEPTION,  
THERE WERE MANY  
WOMEN IN THIS ERA  
WHO RELUCTANTLY  
HAD TO ABORT  
THEIR BABY

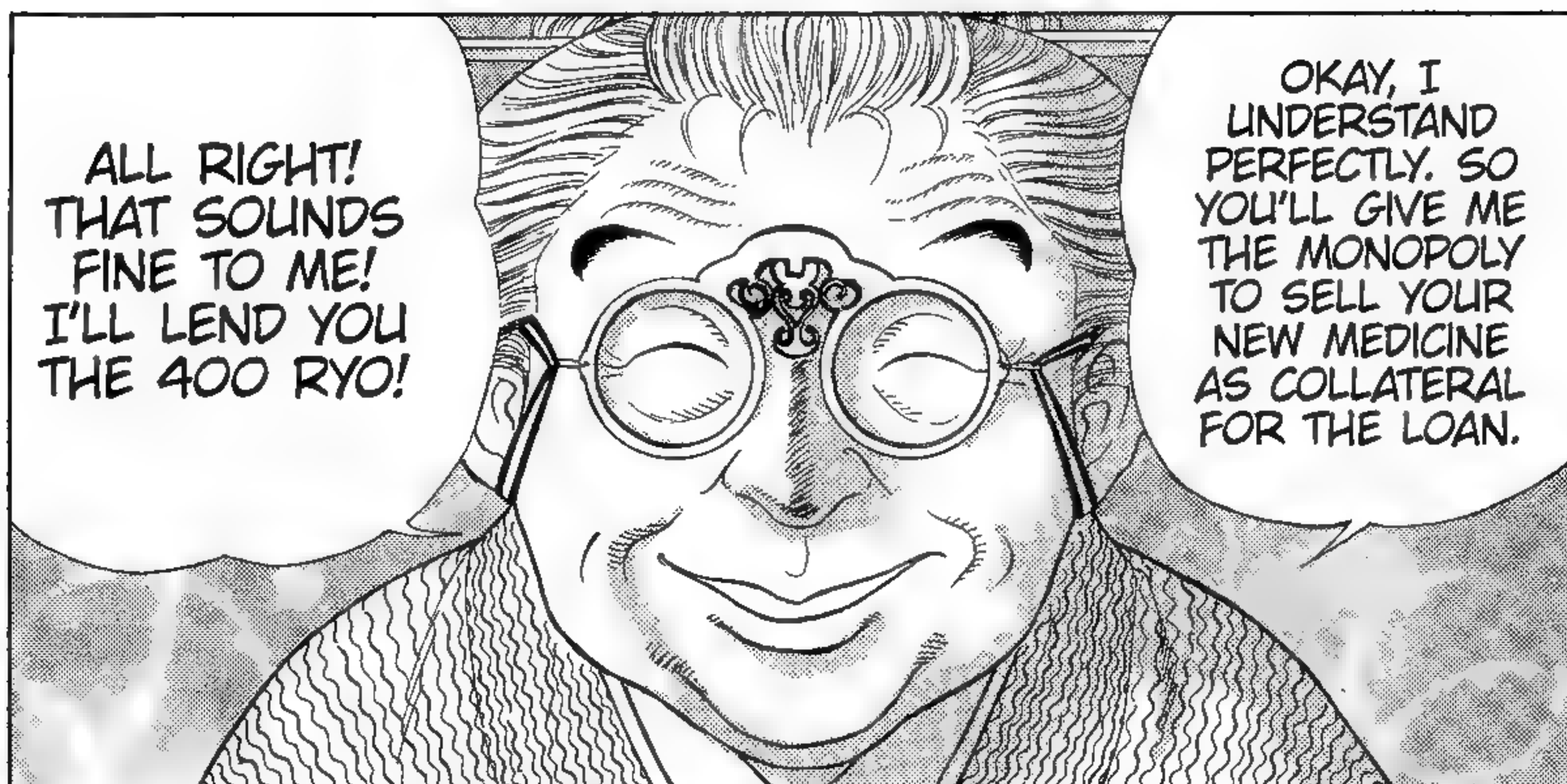


WHOA!













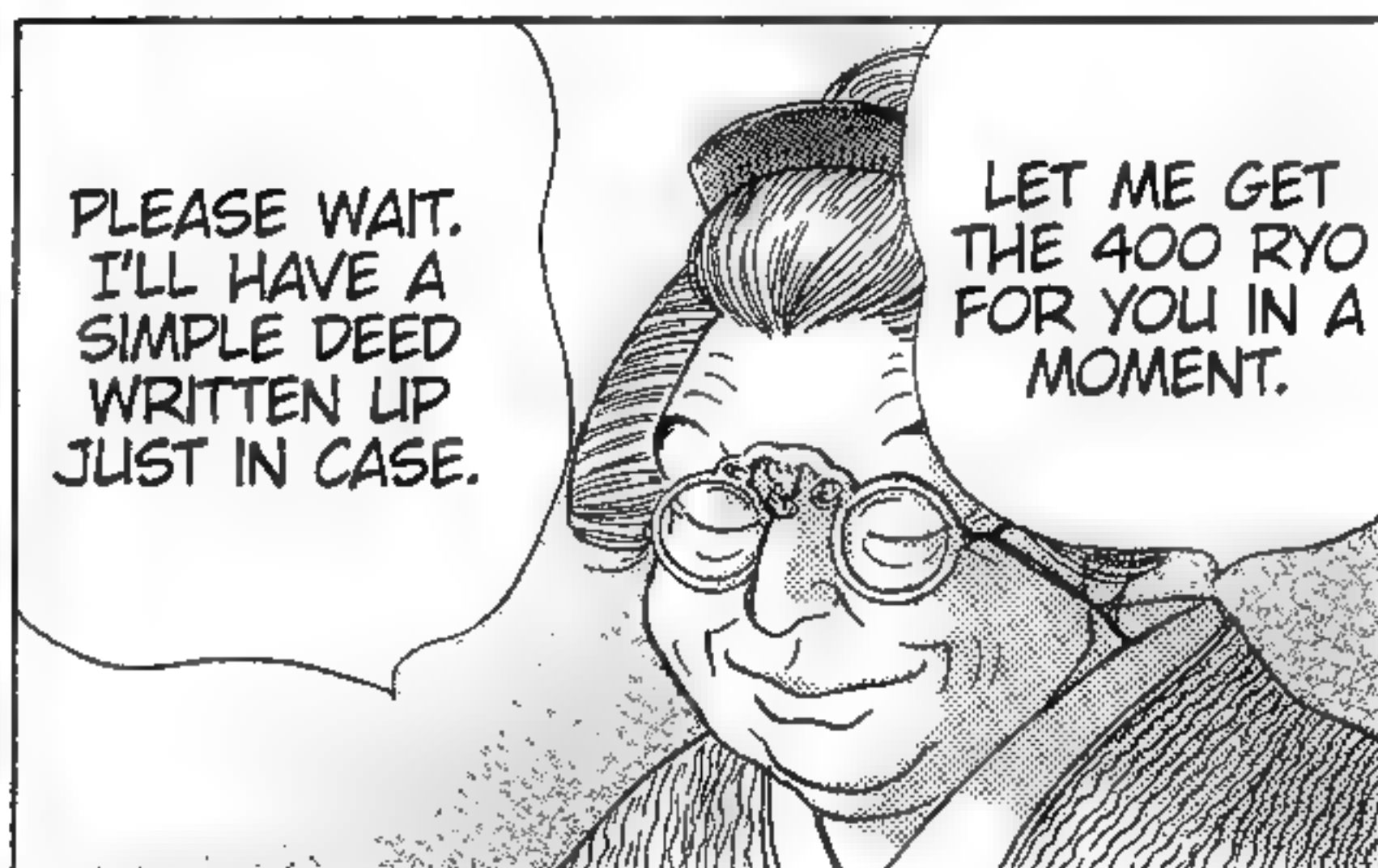
CLAP  
XO  
CLAP  
XO



SER-  
VANTS!



I'M... VERY  
FLATTERED TO  
HEAR THAT.



PLEASE WAIT.  
I'LL HAVE A  
SIMPLE DEED  
WRITTEN UP  
JUST IN CASE.

LET ME GET  
THE 400 RYO  
FOR YOU IN A  
MOMENT.



AND I HAVE  
UP TO SEVEN  
YEARS TO PAY  
YOU BACK...!

IT SAYS YOU'LL  
LEND ME 400  
RYO WITH NO  
INTEREST...



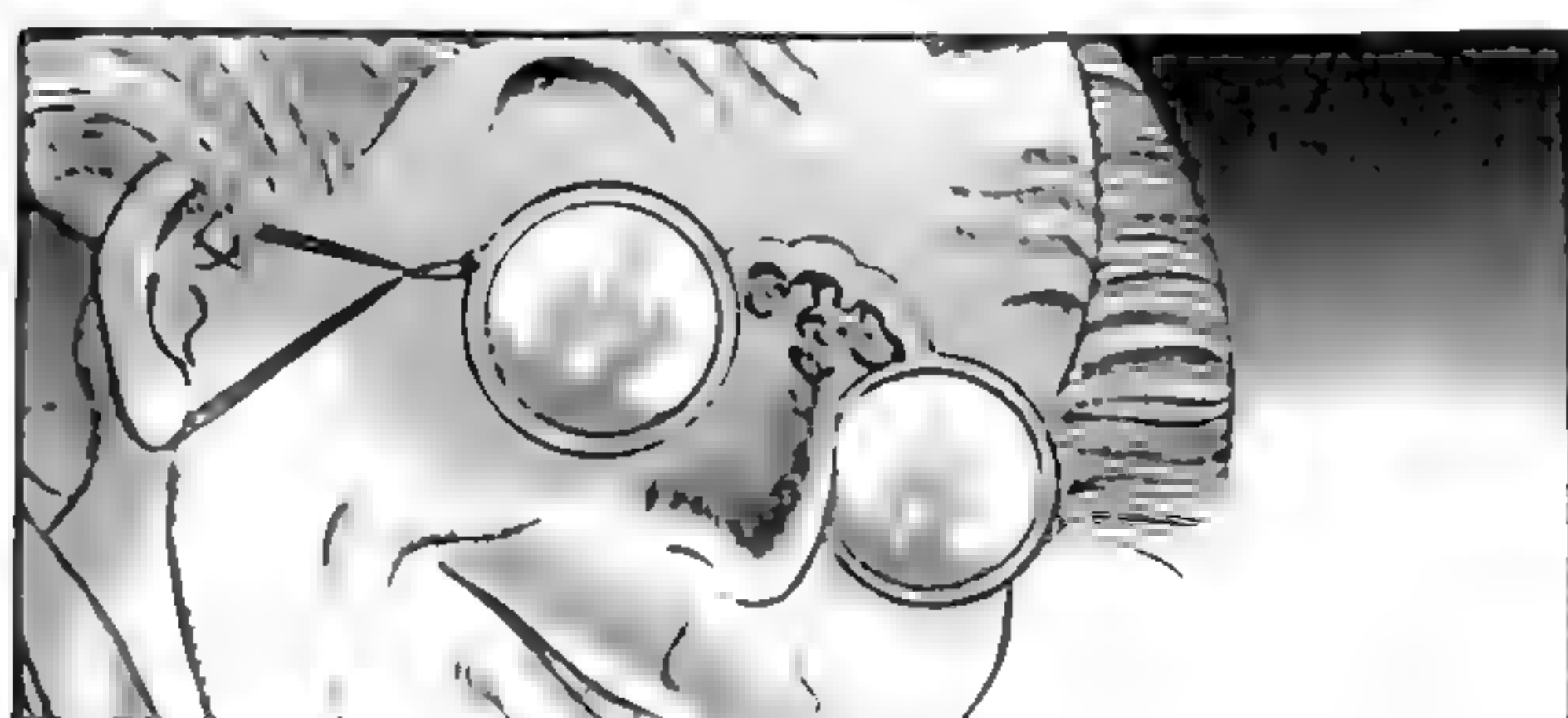
HMM...  
WHAT?!  
TRULY?!



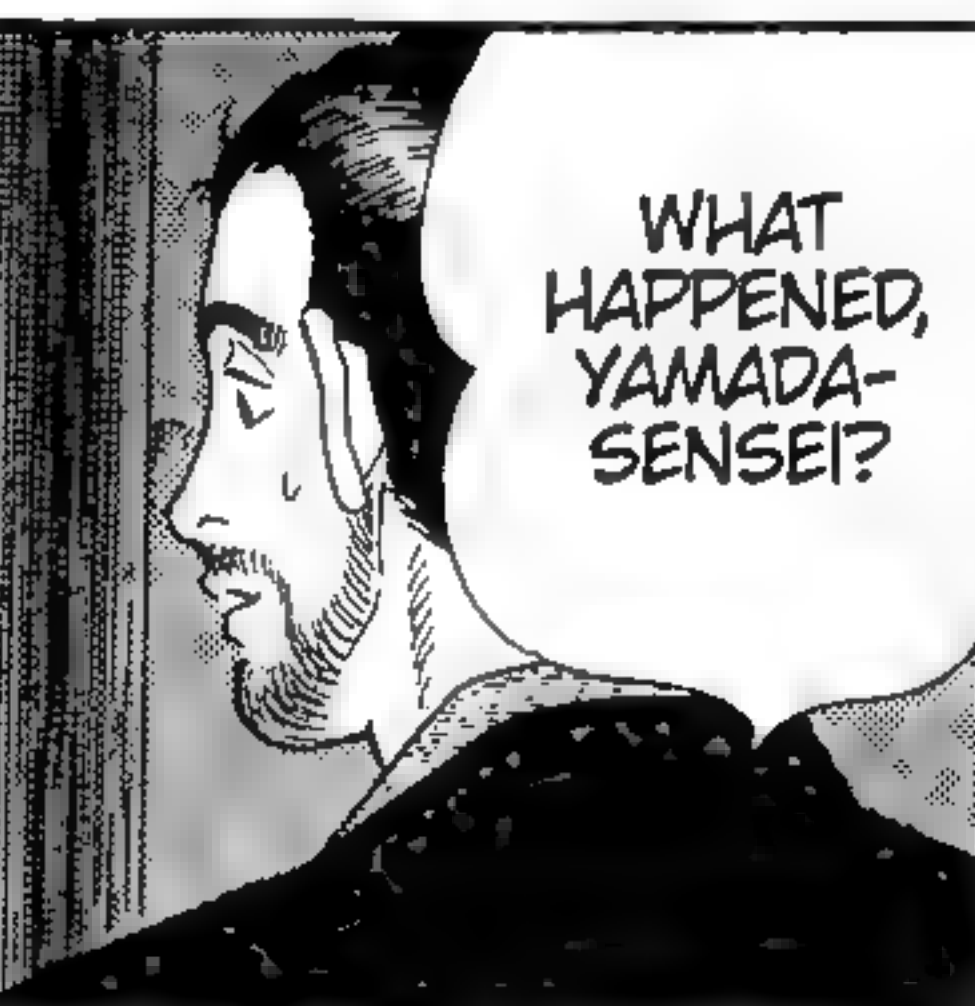
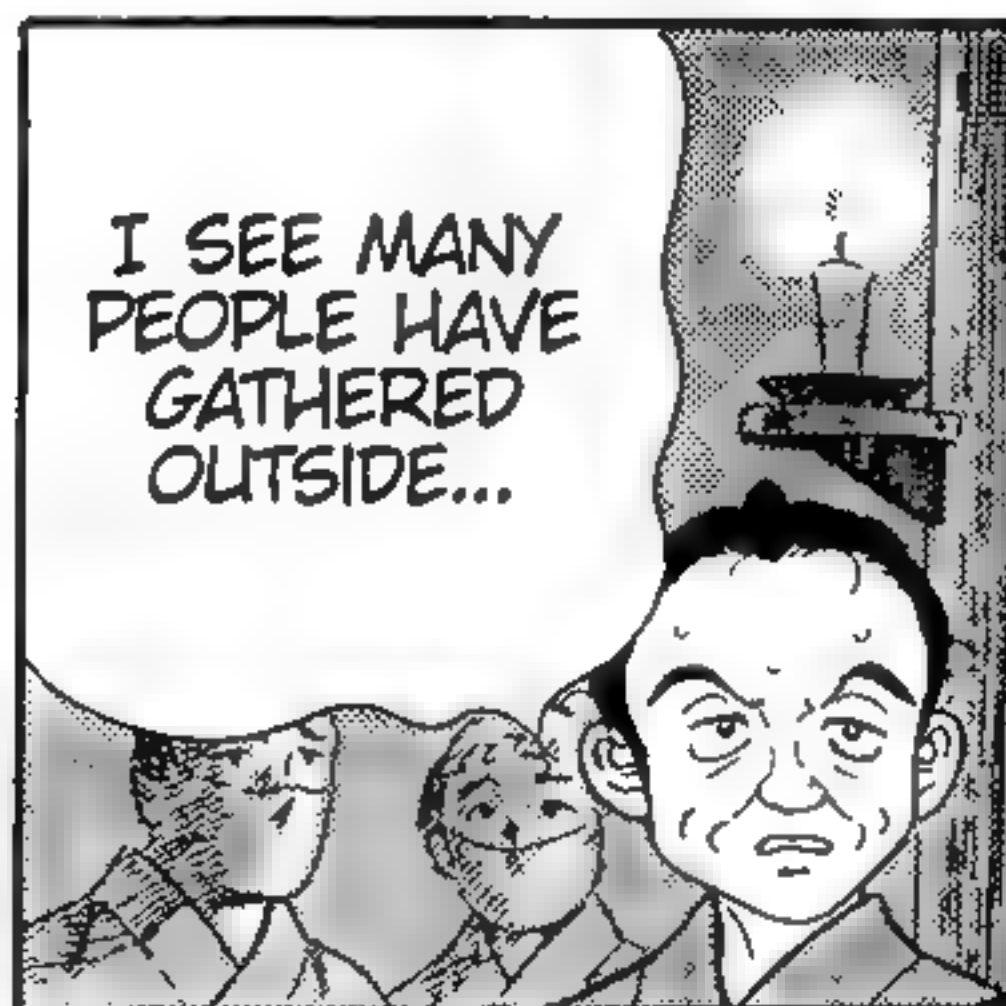
BUT IN THE END,  
SOMEONE HAS TO  
DIRTY THEIR HANDS.  
THAT'S HOW THIS  
WORLD WORKS.

I'M WELL  
AWARE PEOPLE  
SPEAK ILL OF THE  
CHUJO SCHOOL  
BY SAYING THAT  
WE MAKE MONEY  
BY ABORTING  
BABIES...













WHOA! THIS  
IS THE FIRST  
TIME I'VE EVER  
TOUCHED A REAL  
GOLD COIN!

NOW THIS  
IS WHAT I'M  
TALKING ABOUT!  
LET'S GET BACK  
TO WORK!



AND IF WE  
SUCCEED IN  
MAKIN' THE  
NEW MEDICINE,  
YOU'LL HAVE A  
GUARANTEED  
JOB! SO YA  
BETT'R WORK  
HARD!

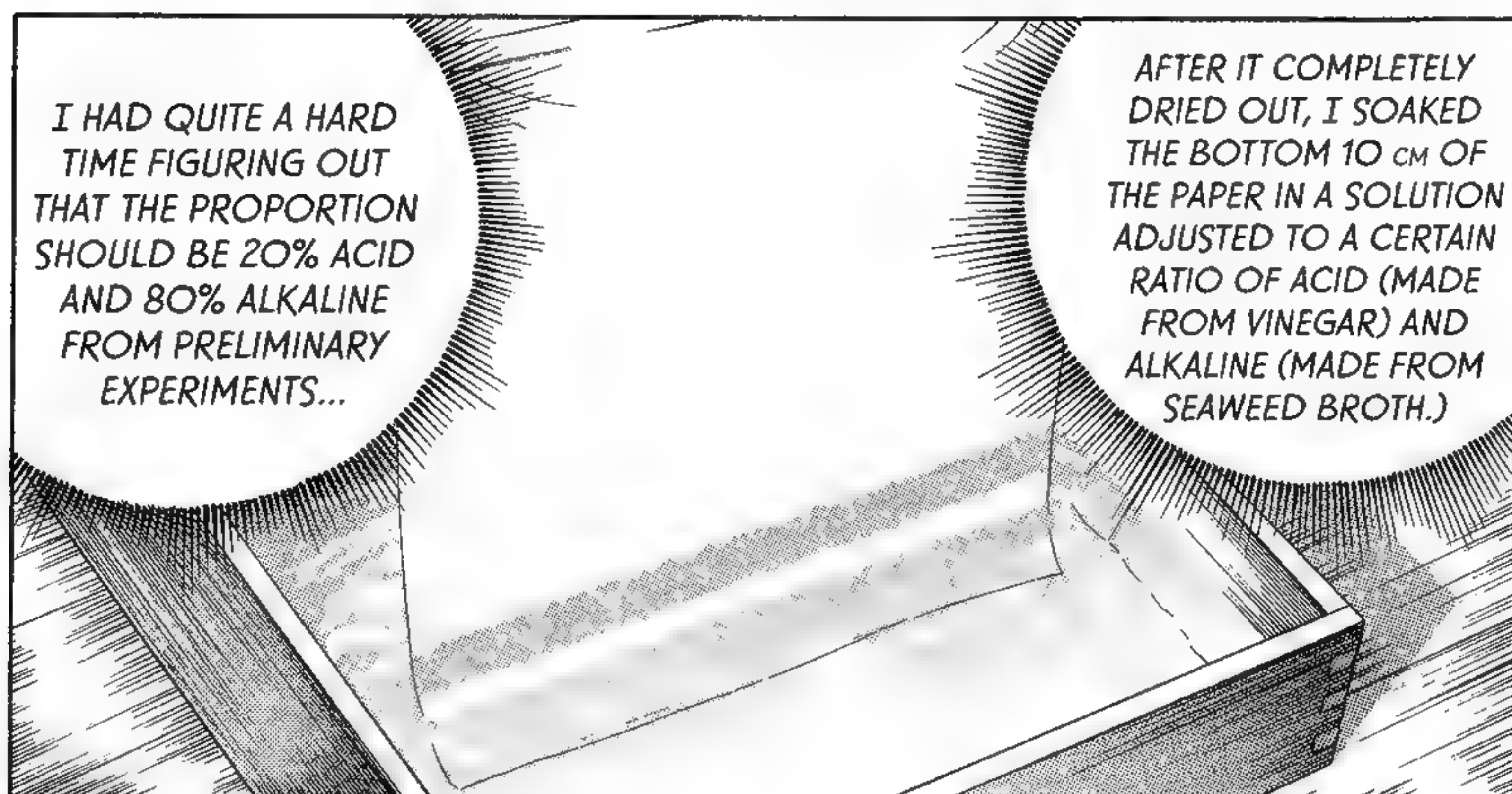
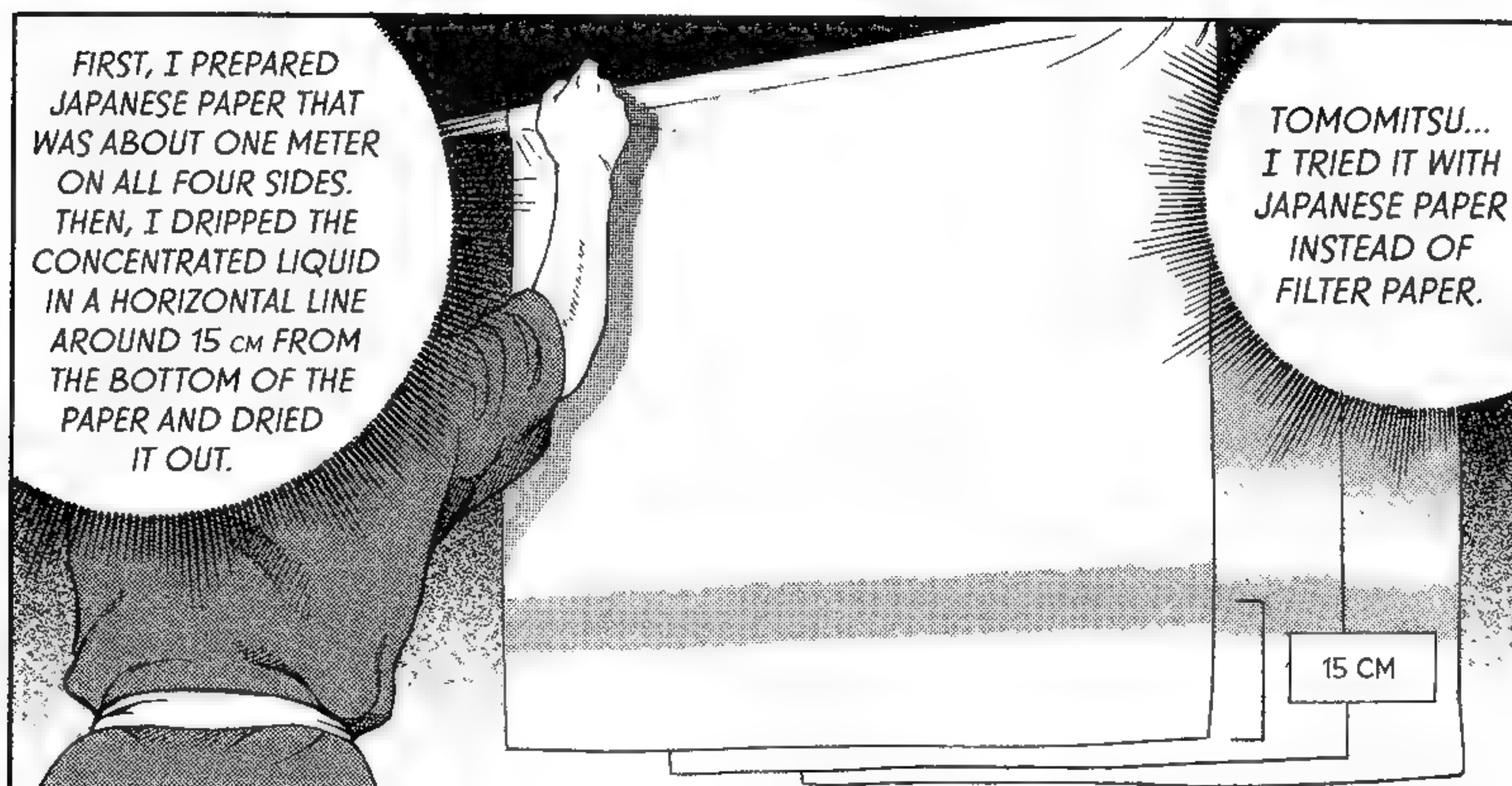
'ERE! ONE  
RYO FOR YA  
EACH! THAT'S  
INCLUDES YER  
PAY UPFRONT  
TOO!



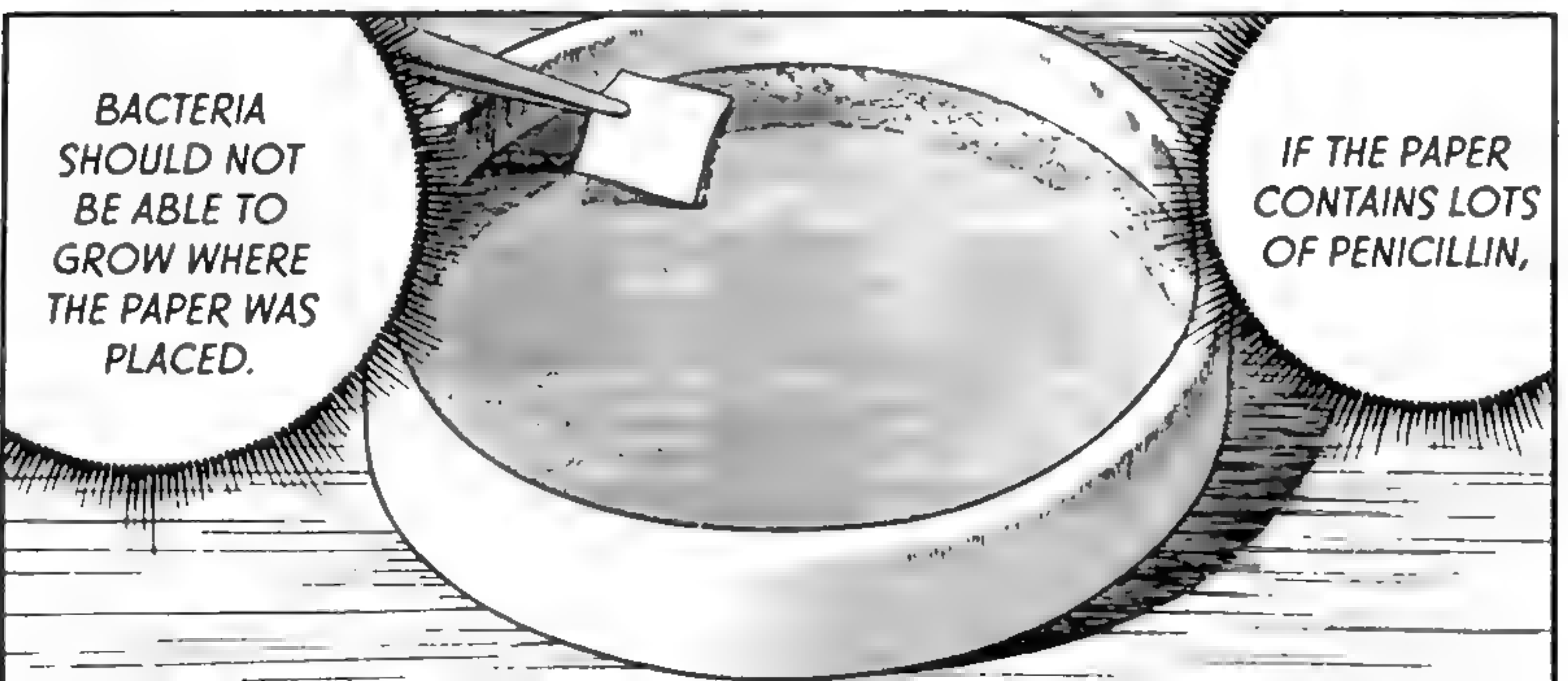
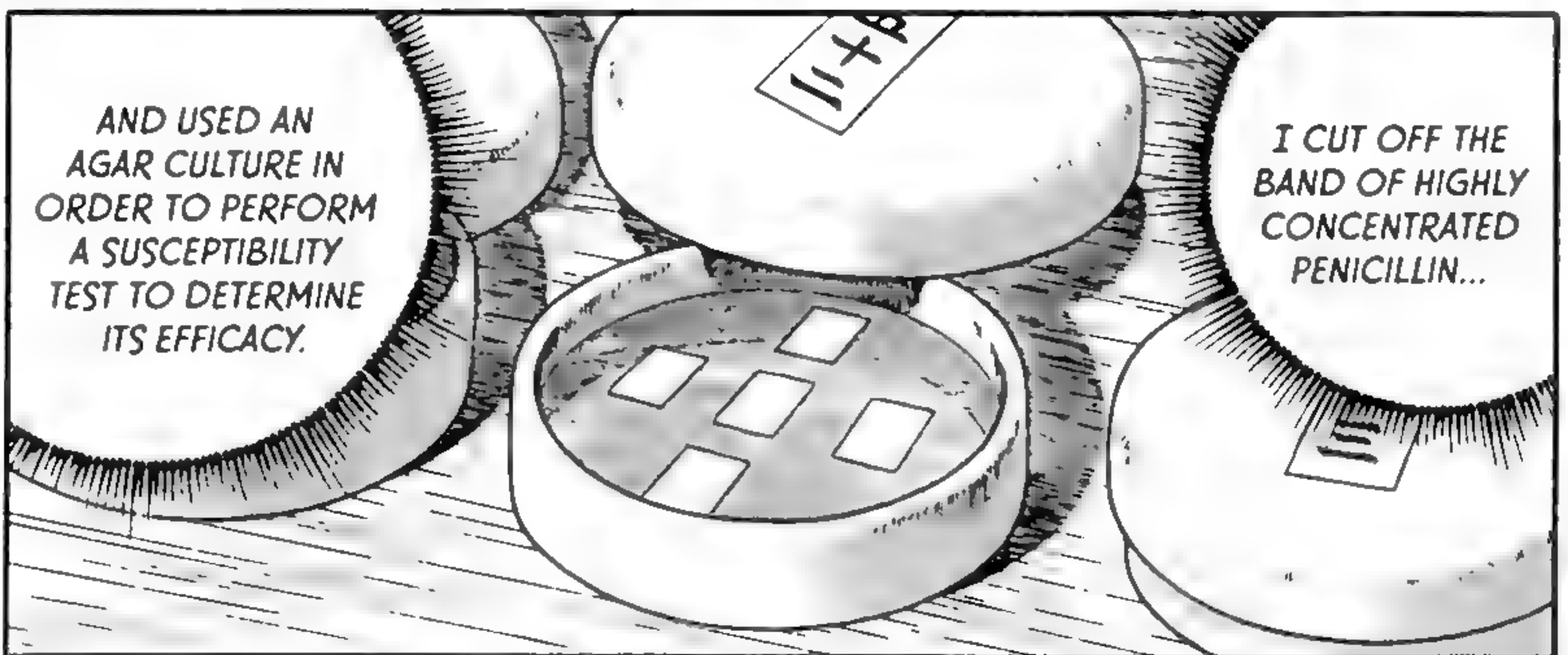
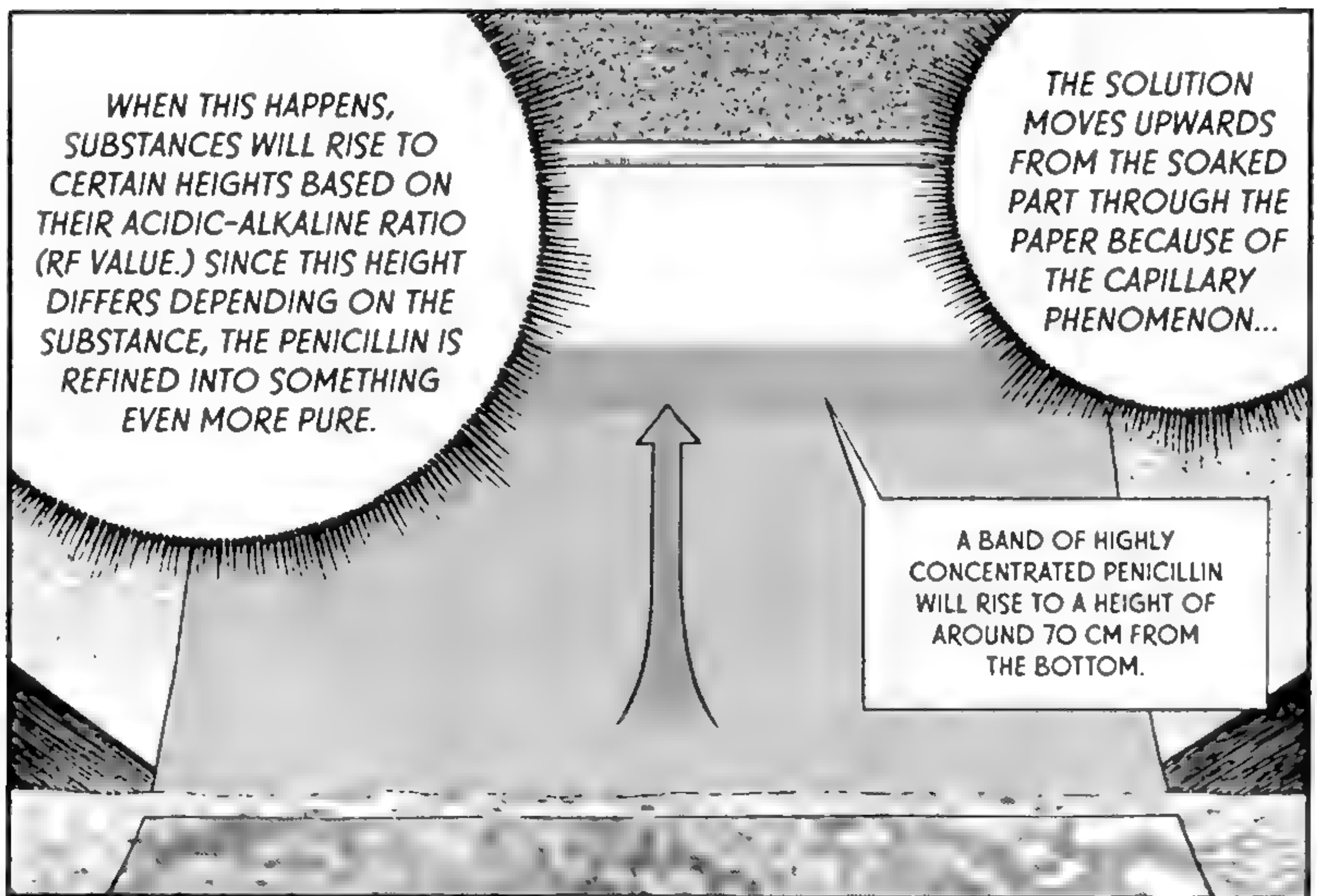
HOW...  
DO WE DO  
THAT?!

PAPER  
CHROMA-  
TOGRAPHY?

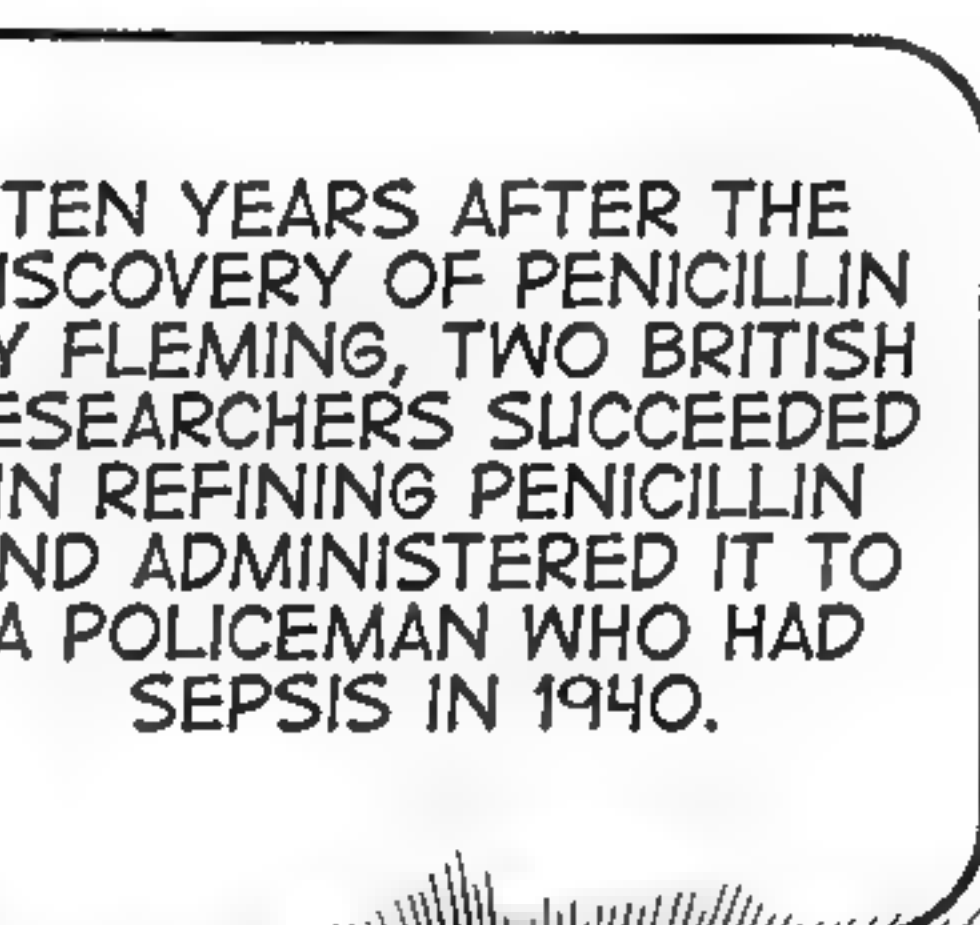
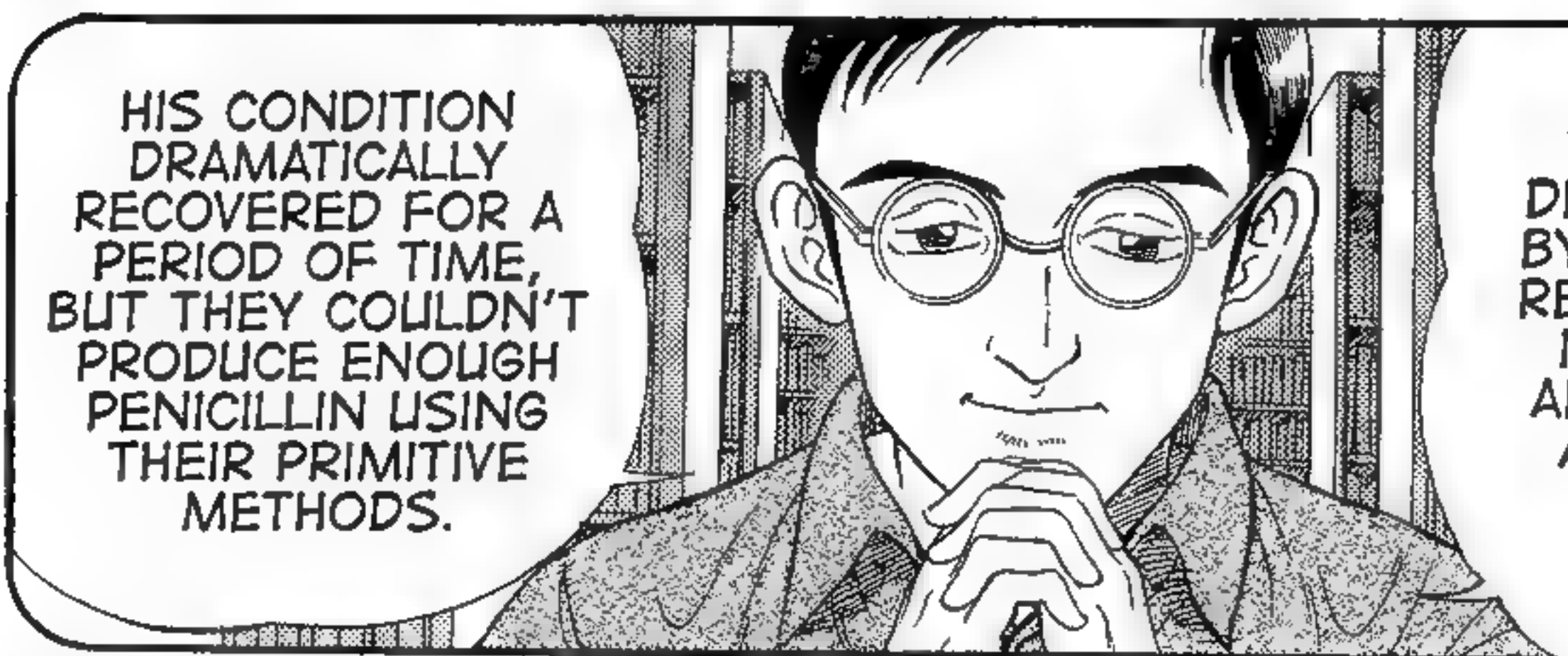
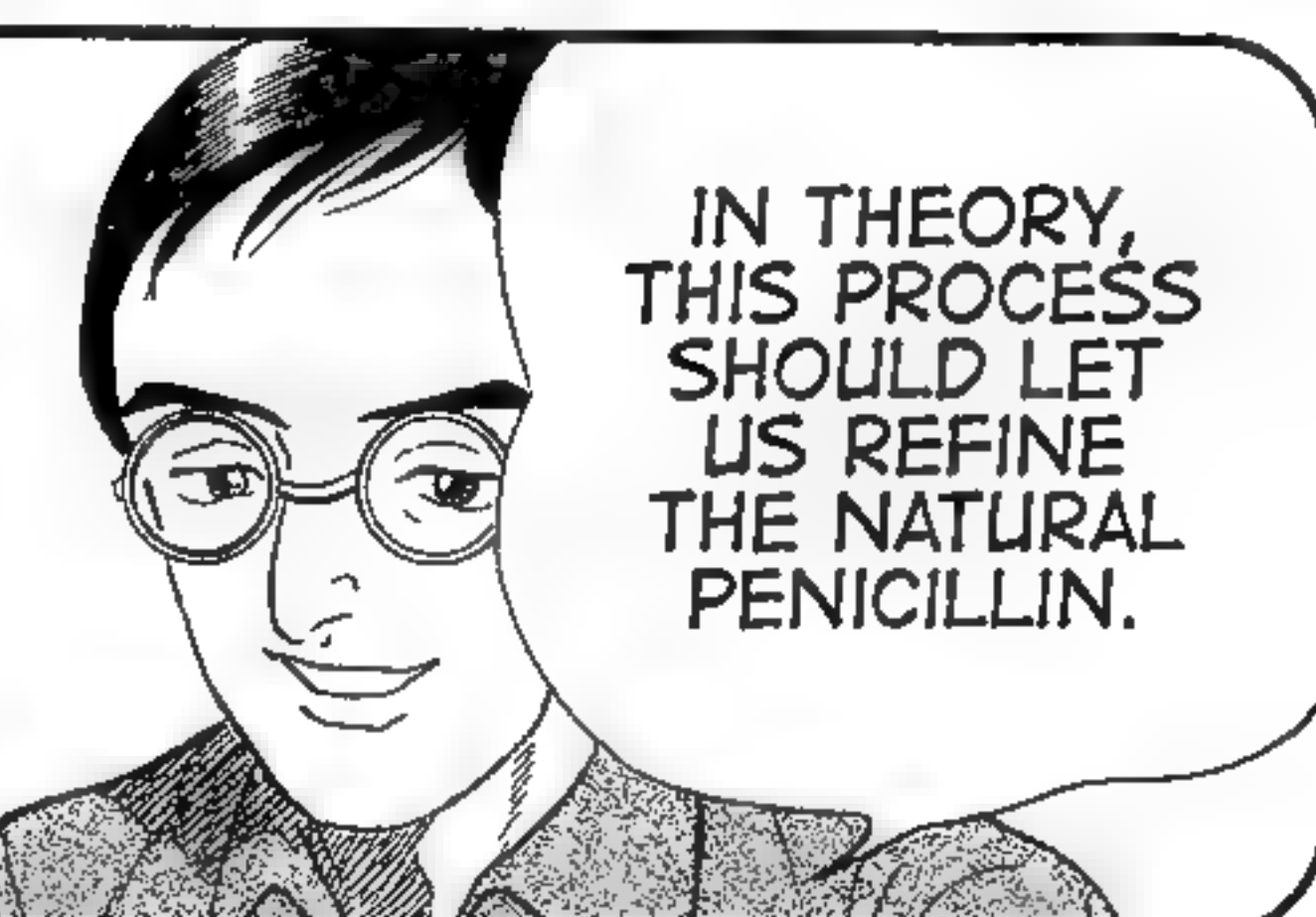
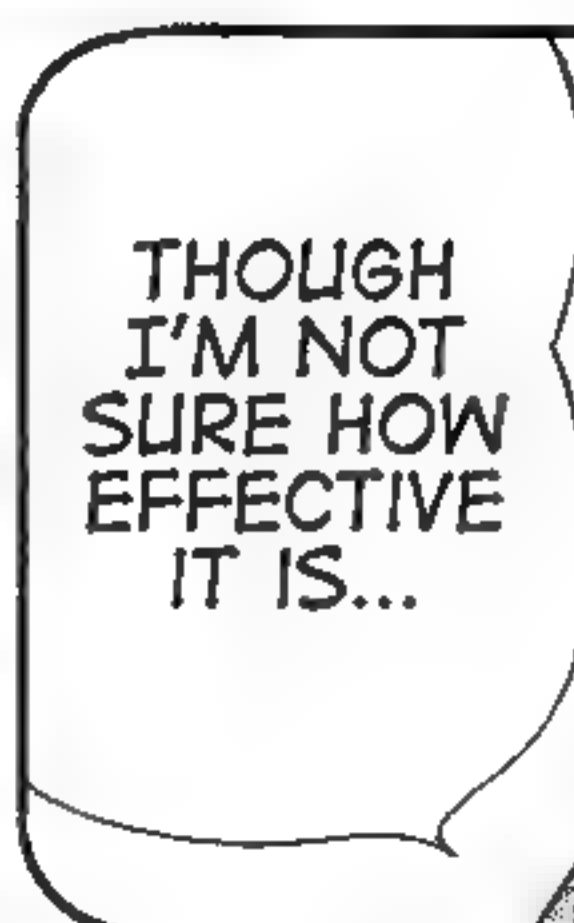
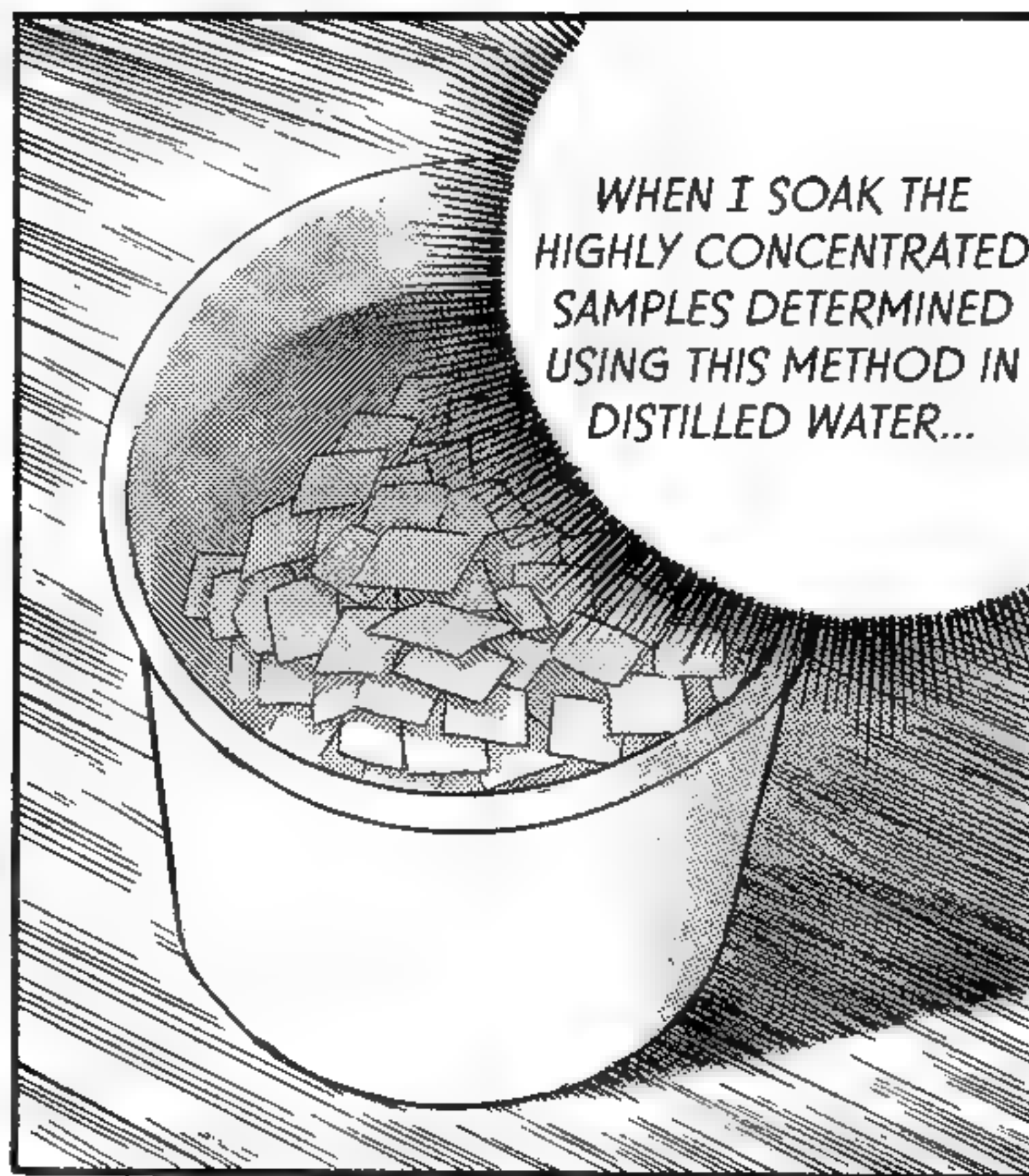




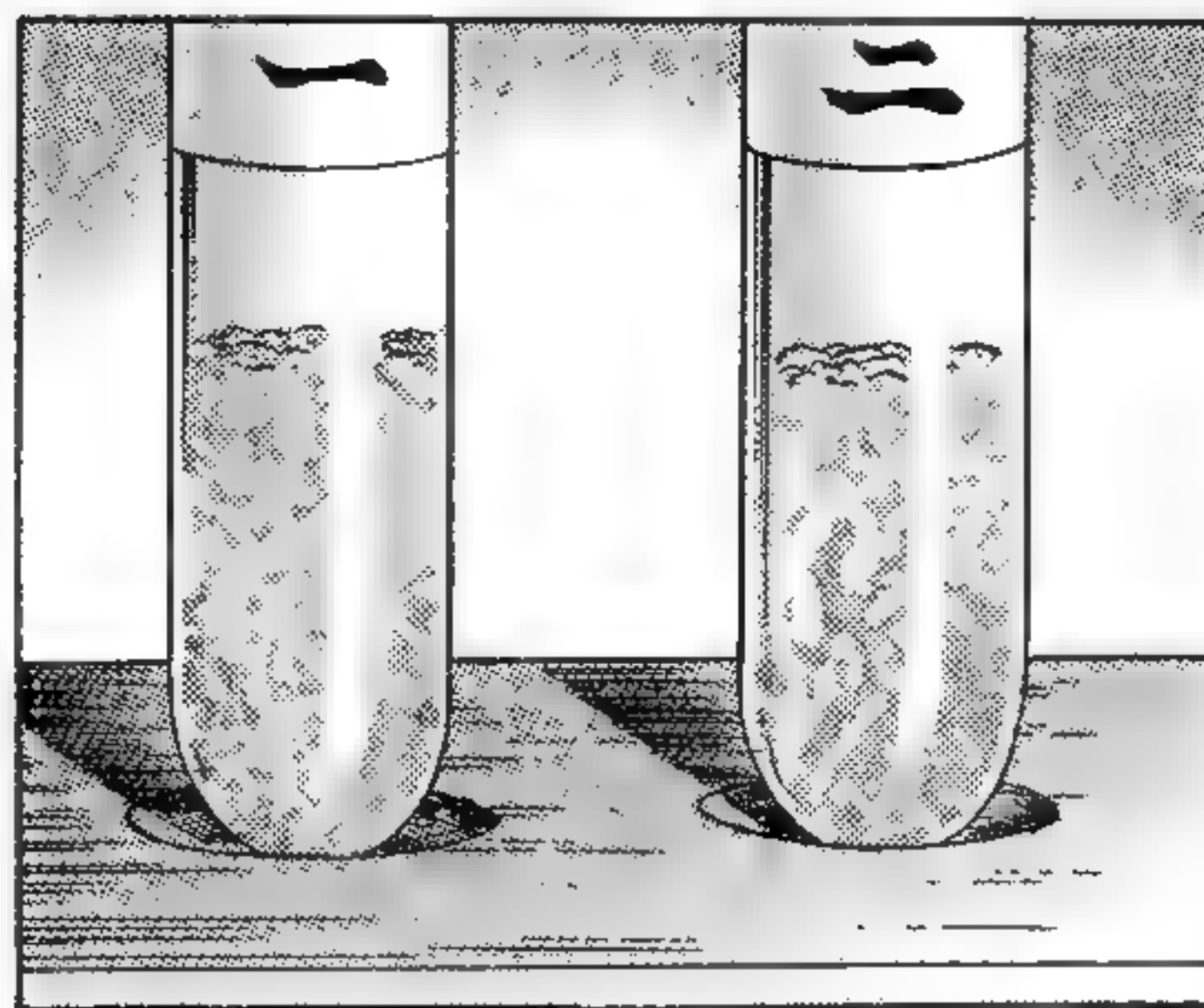
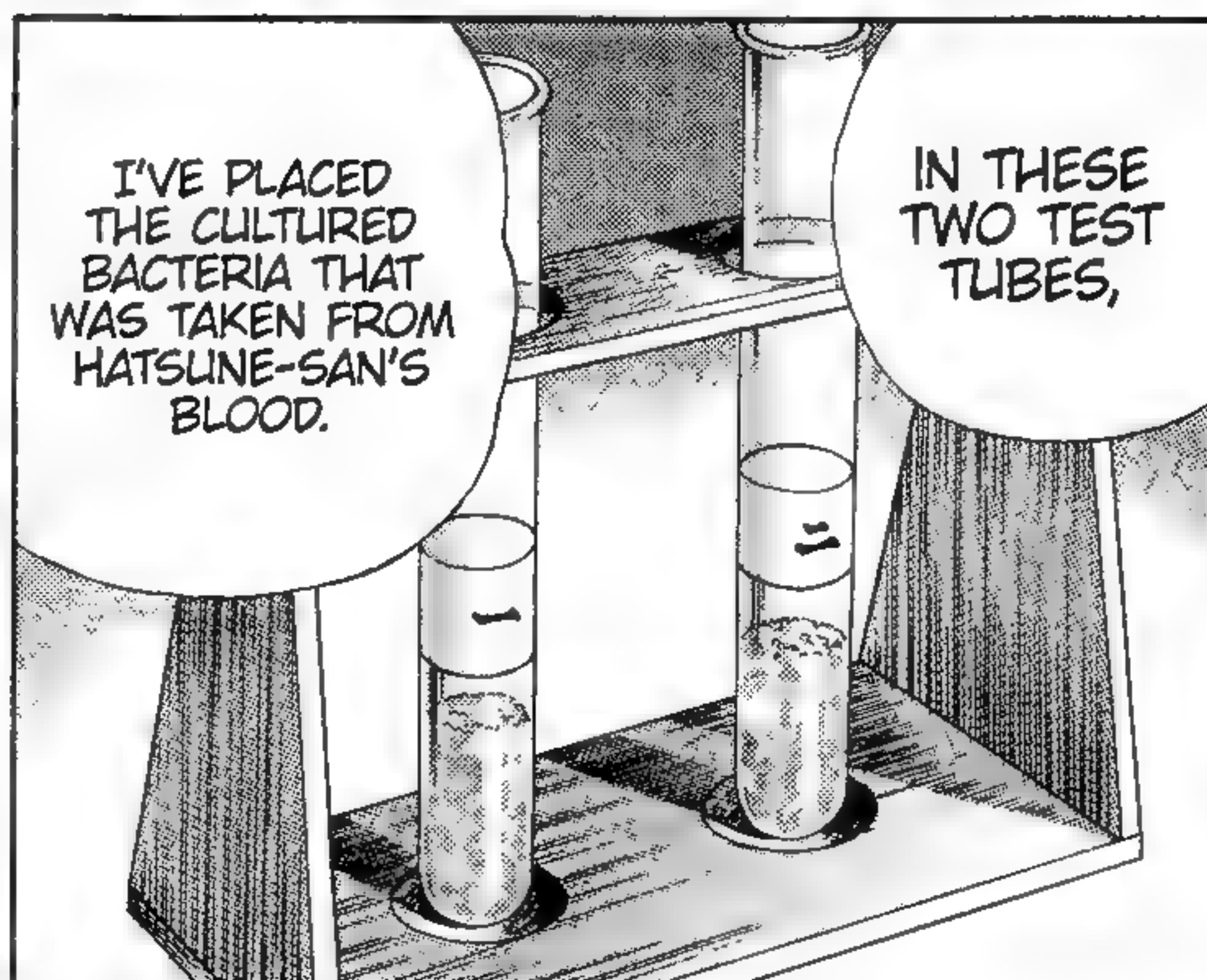
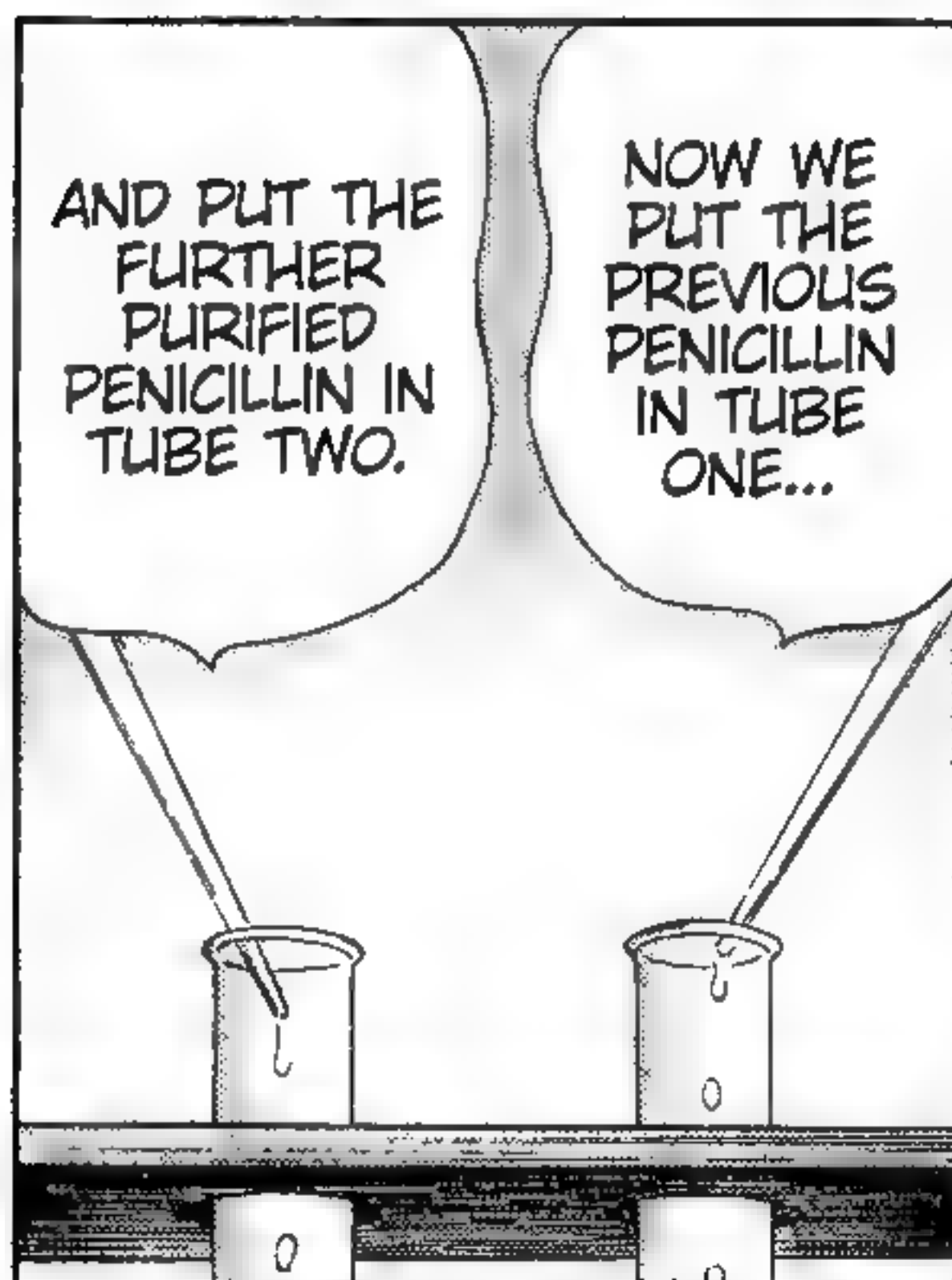




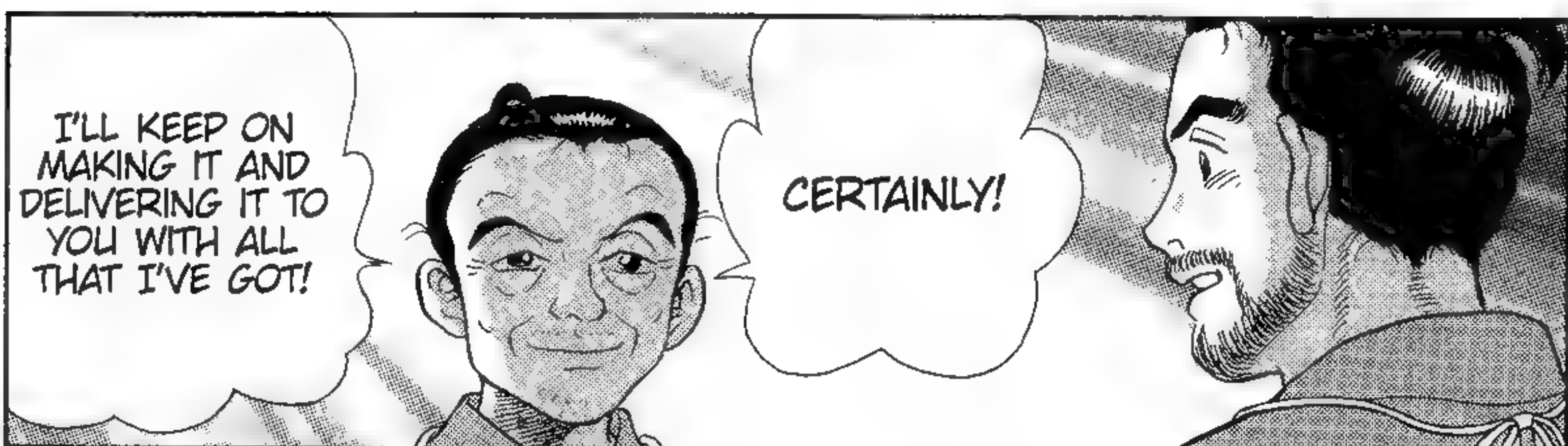
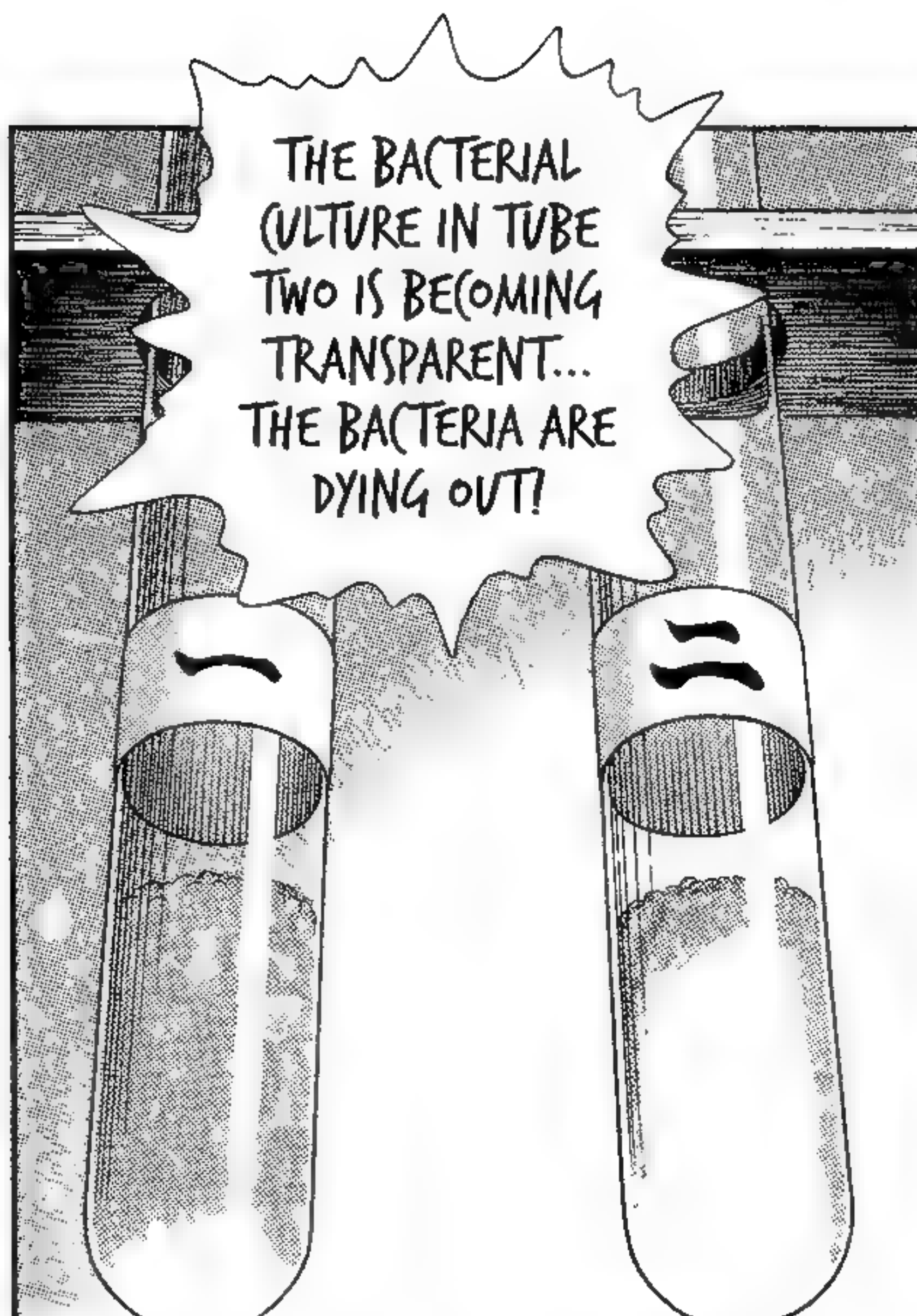
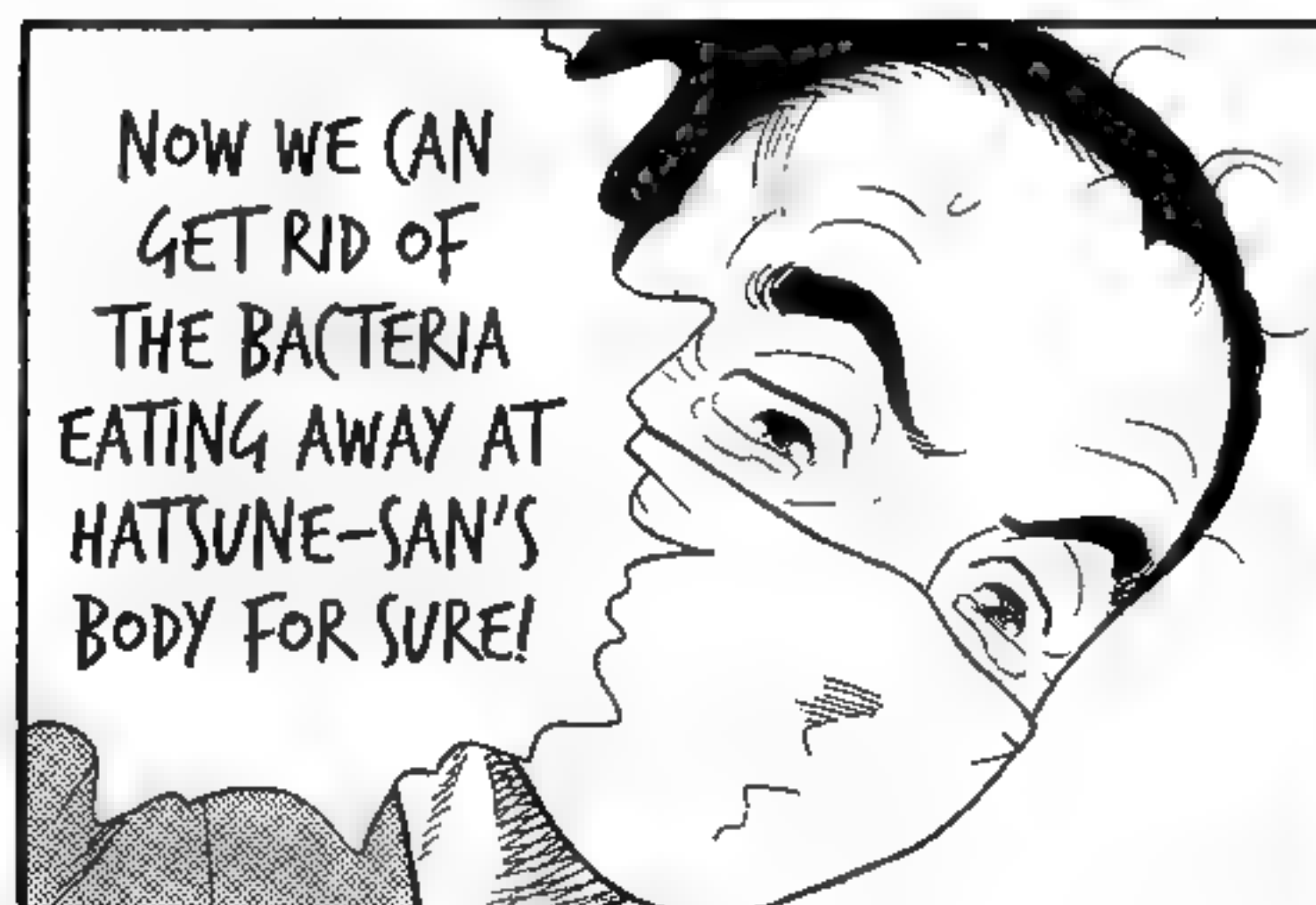




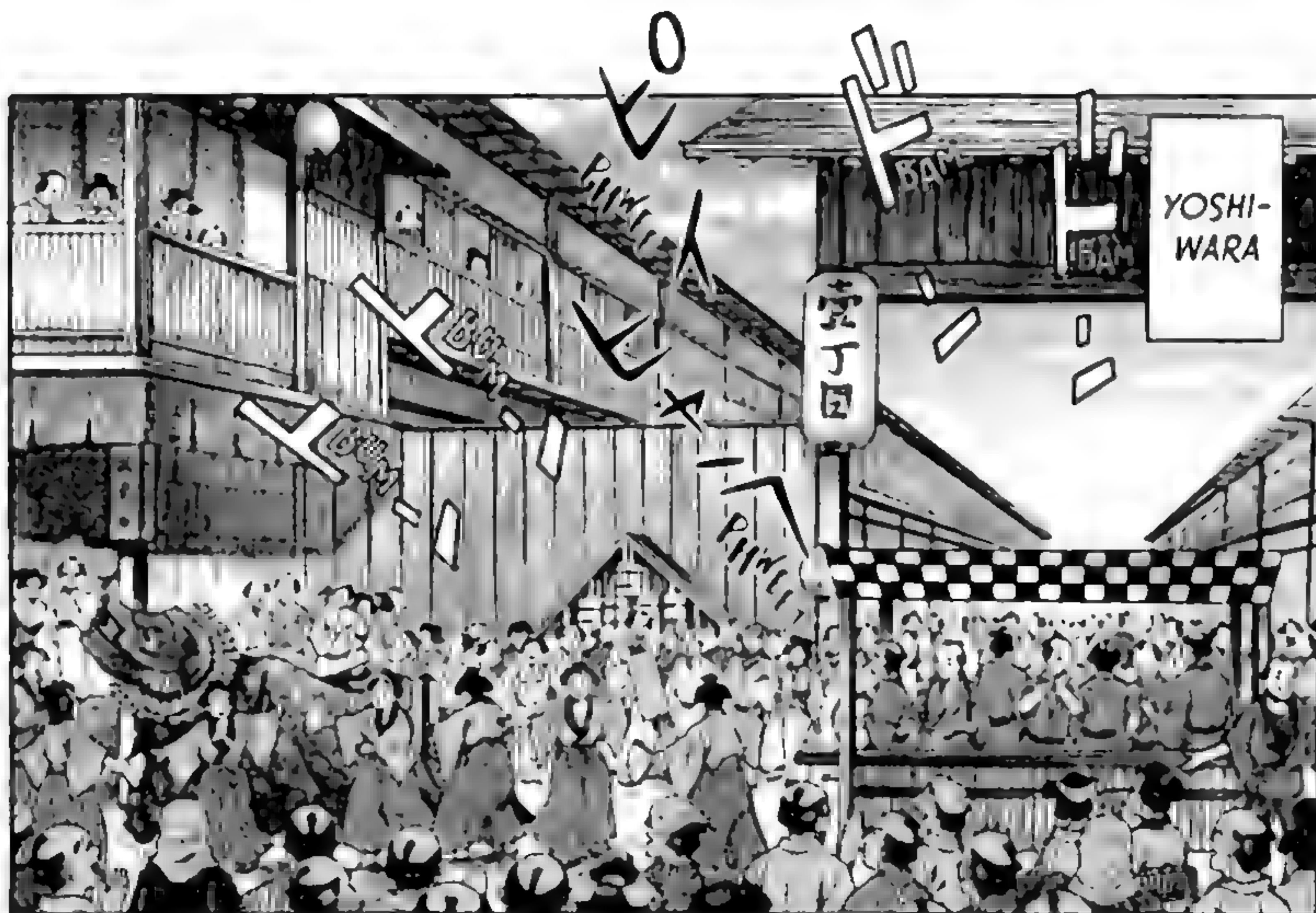




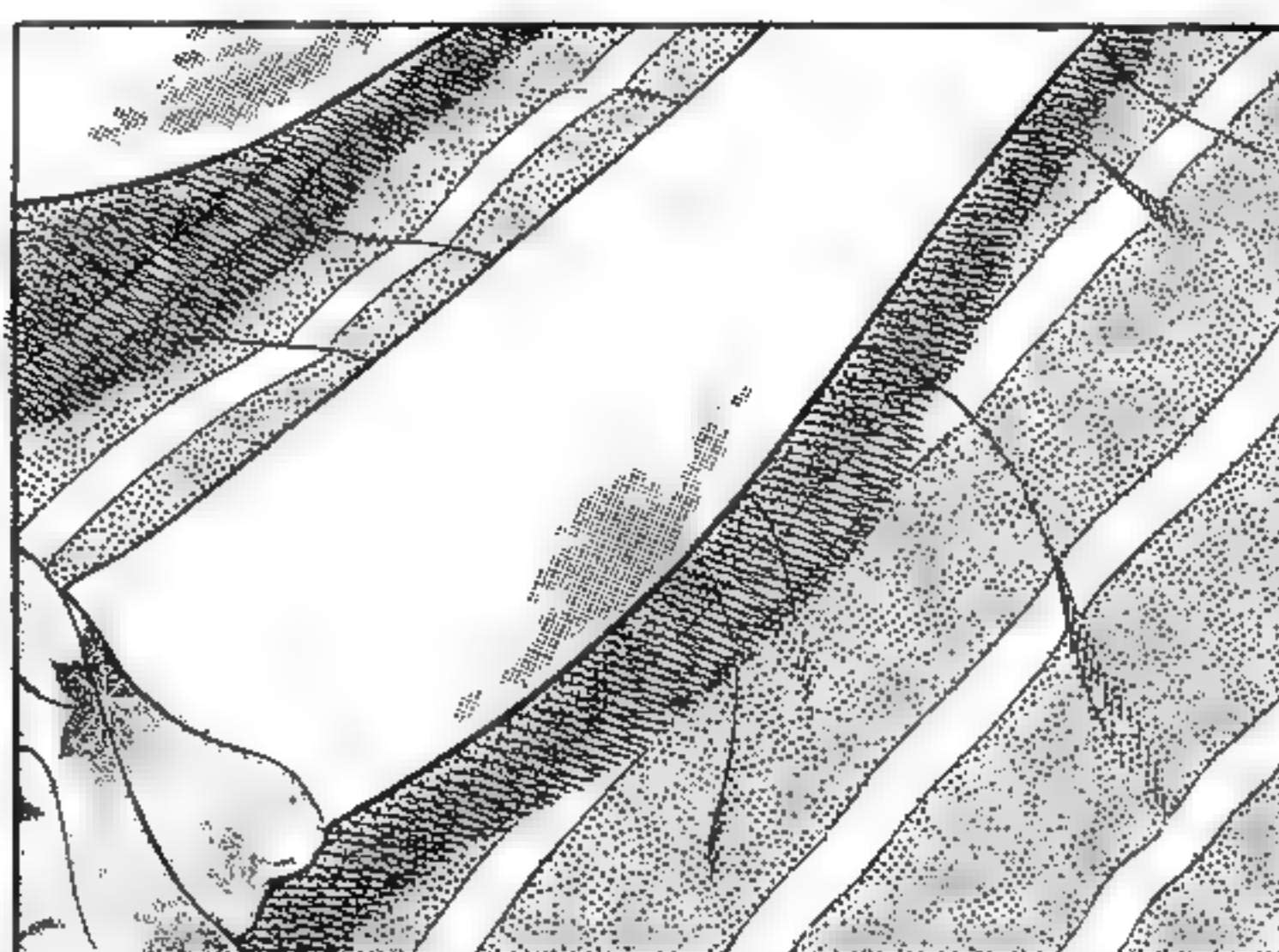
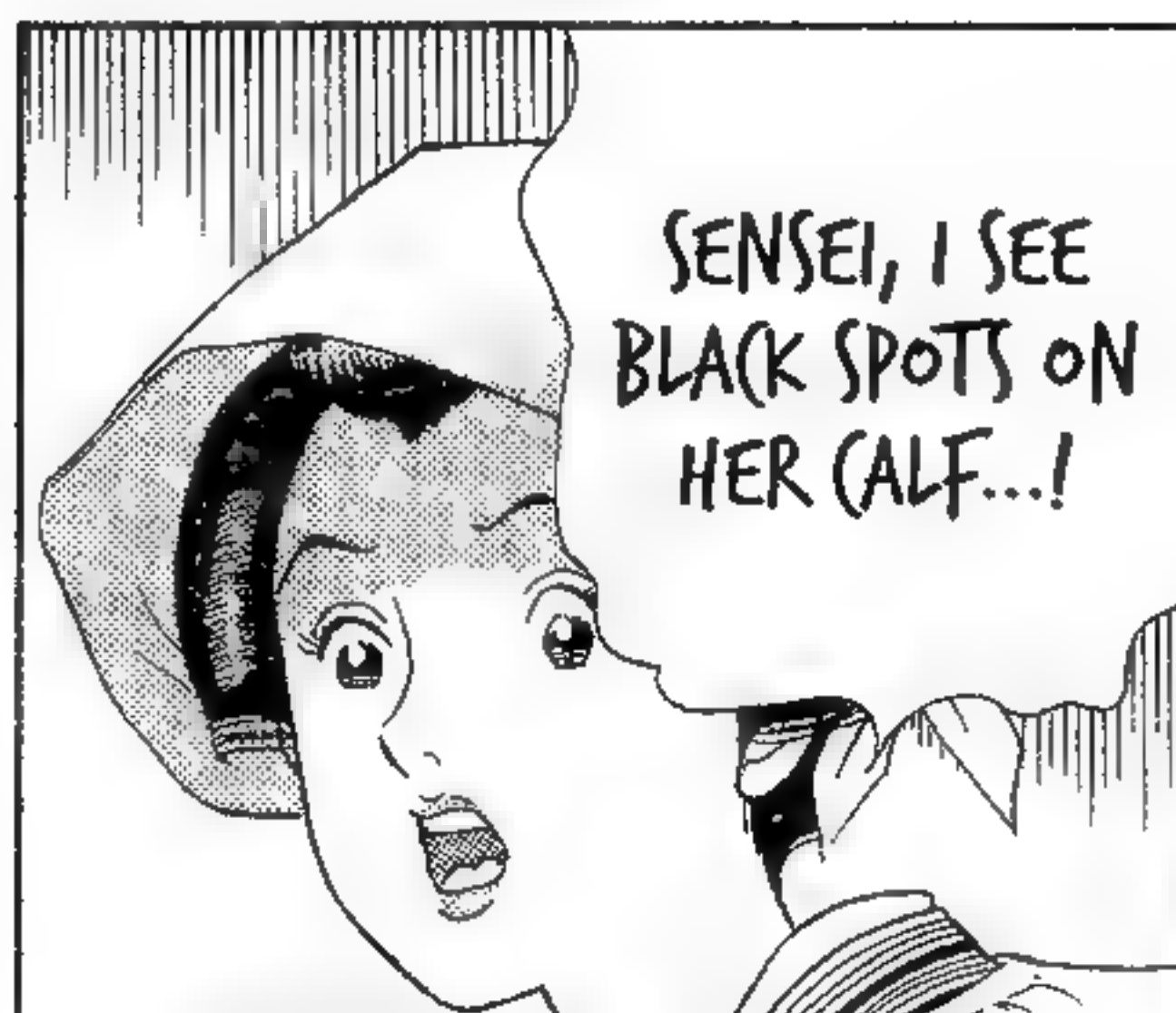




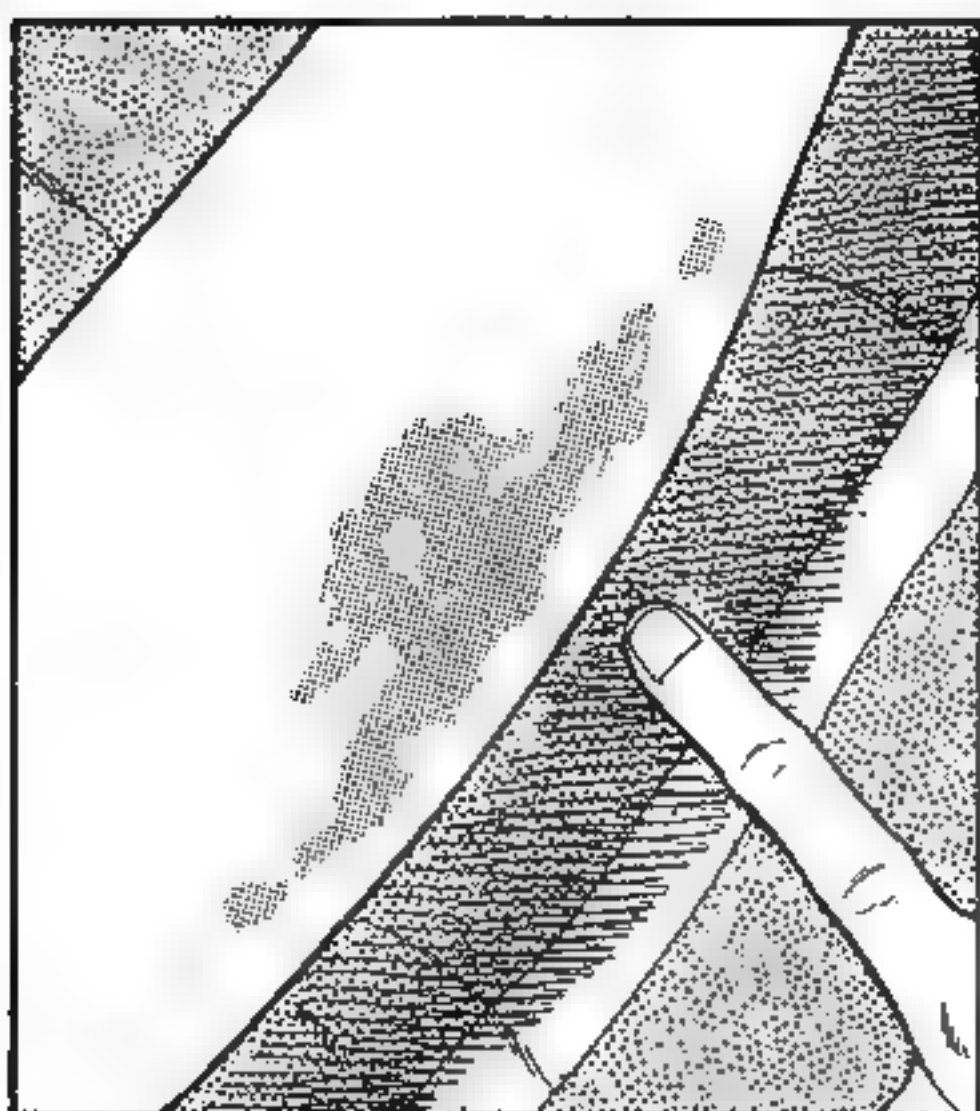
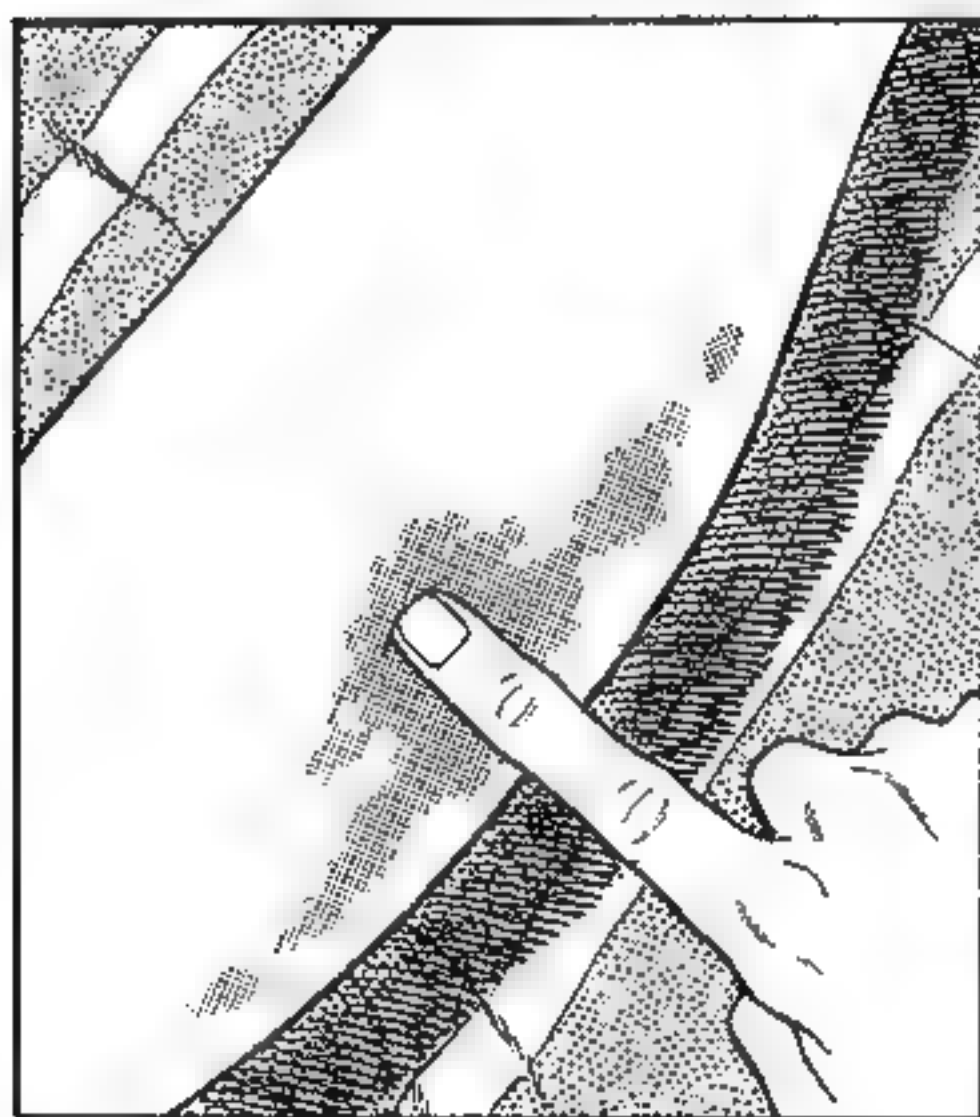




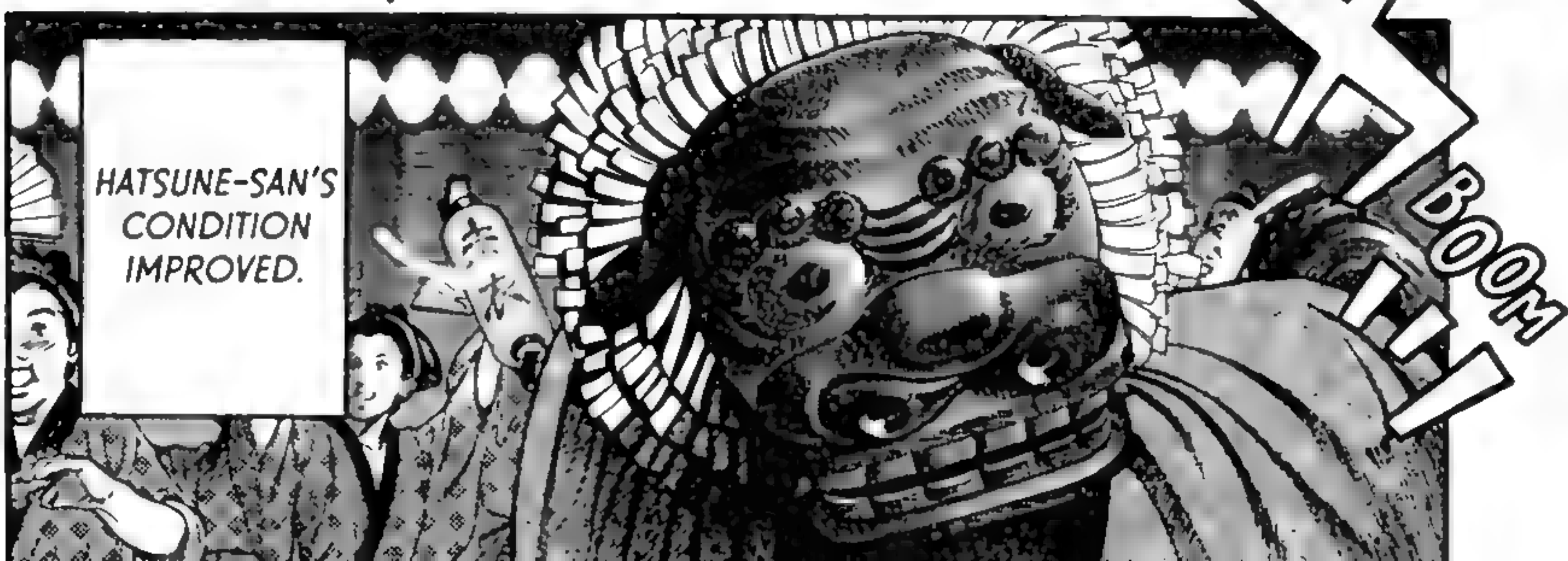
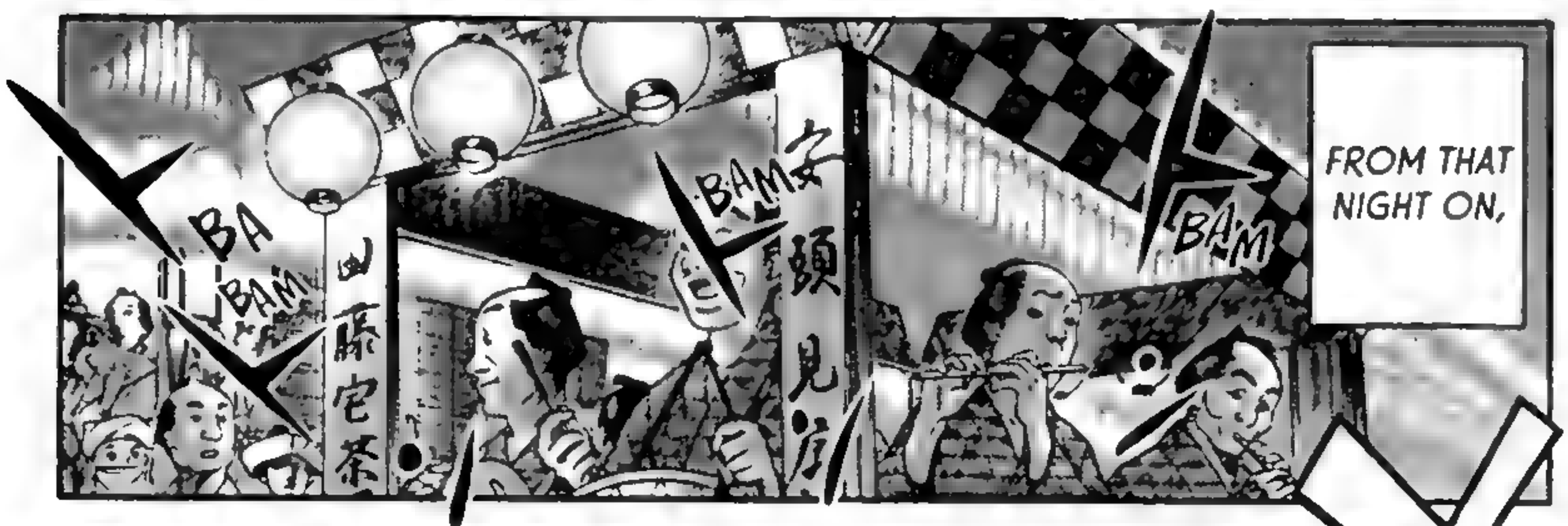
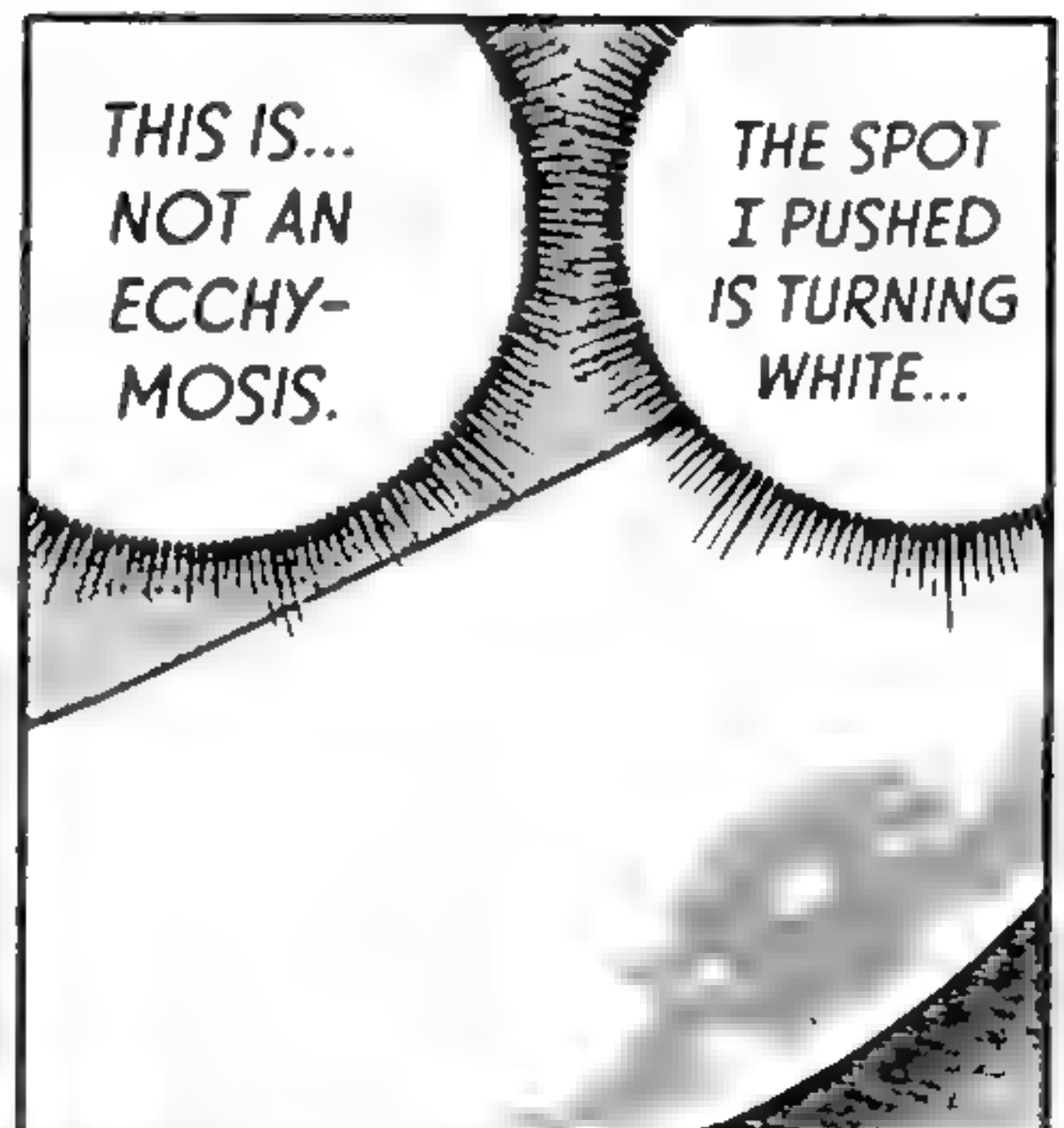




\*A DISCOLORATION OF THE SKIN THAT RESULTS FROM BLEEDING UNDERNEATH IT.









AND  
ONE WEEK  
LATER...



YOU  
SHOULD BE  
THANKING  
MINAKATA-  
SENSEI AND  
SAKI-SAN  
INSTEAD.

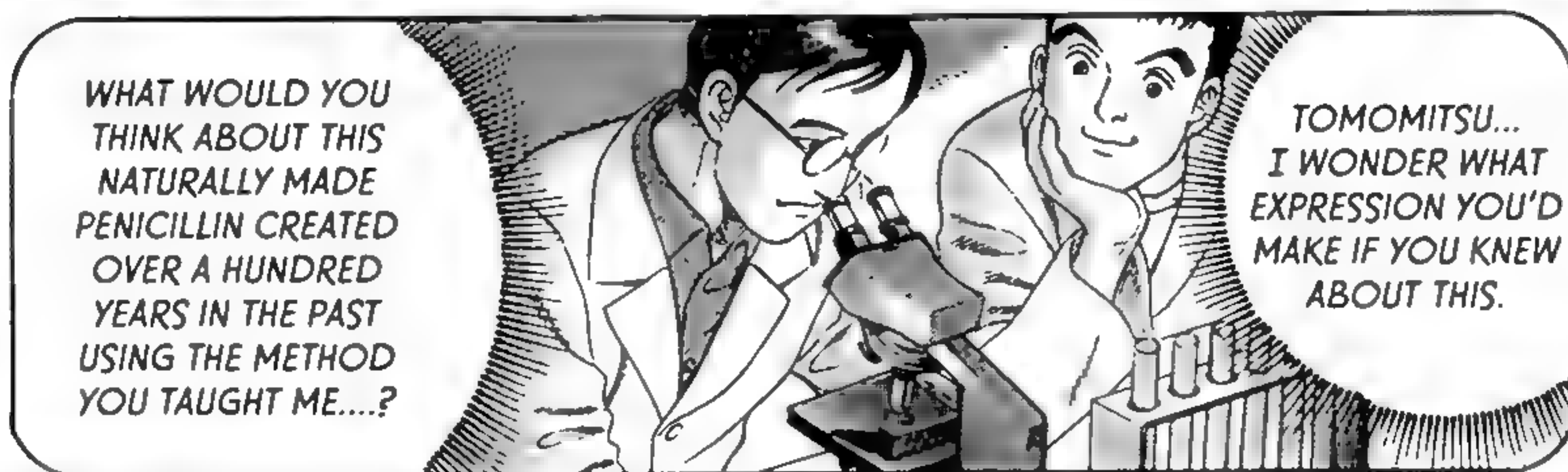
NO,  
DON'T  
THANK  
ME.



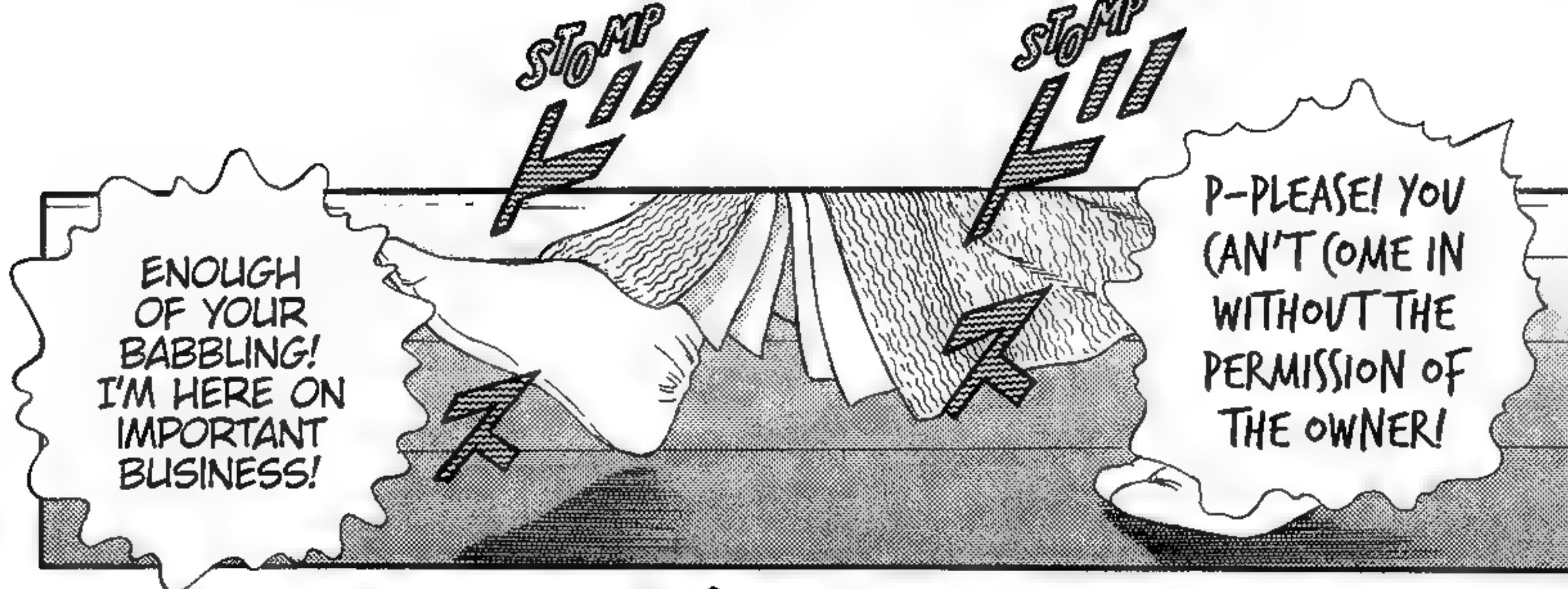
BECAUSE  
OF YOUR  
HELP, I'M  
COMPLETELY  
BETTER.

THANK  
YOU SO  
MUCH,  
SISTER  
NOKAZE.

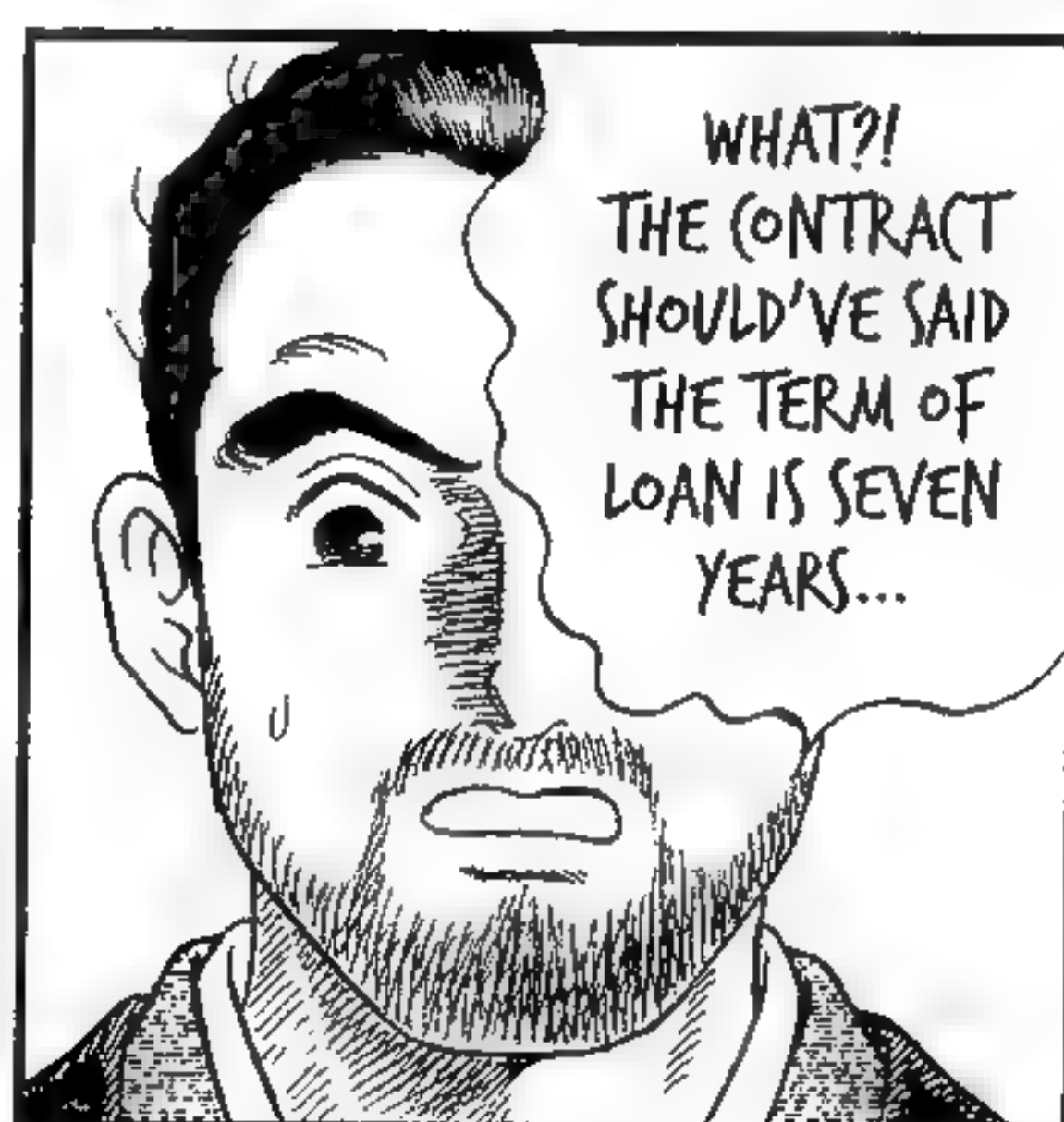
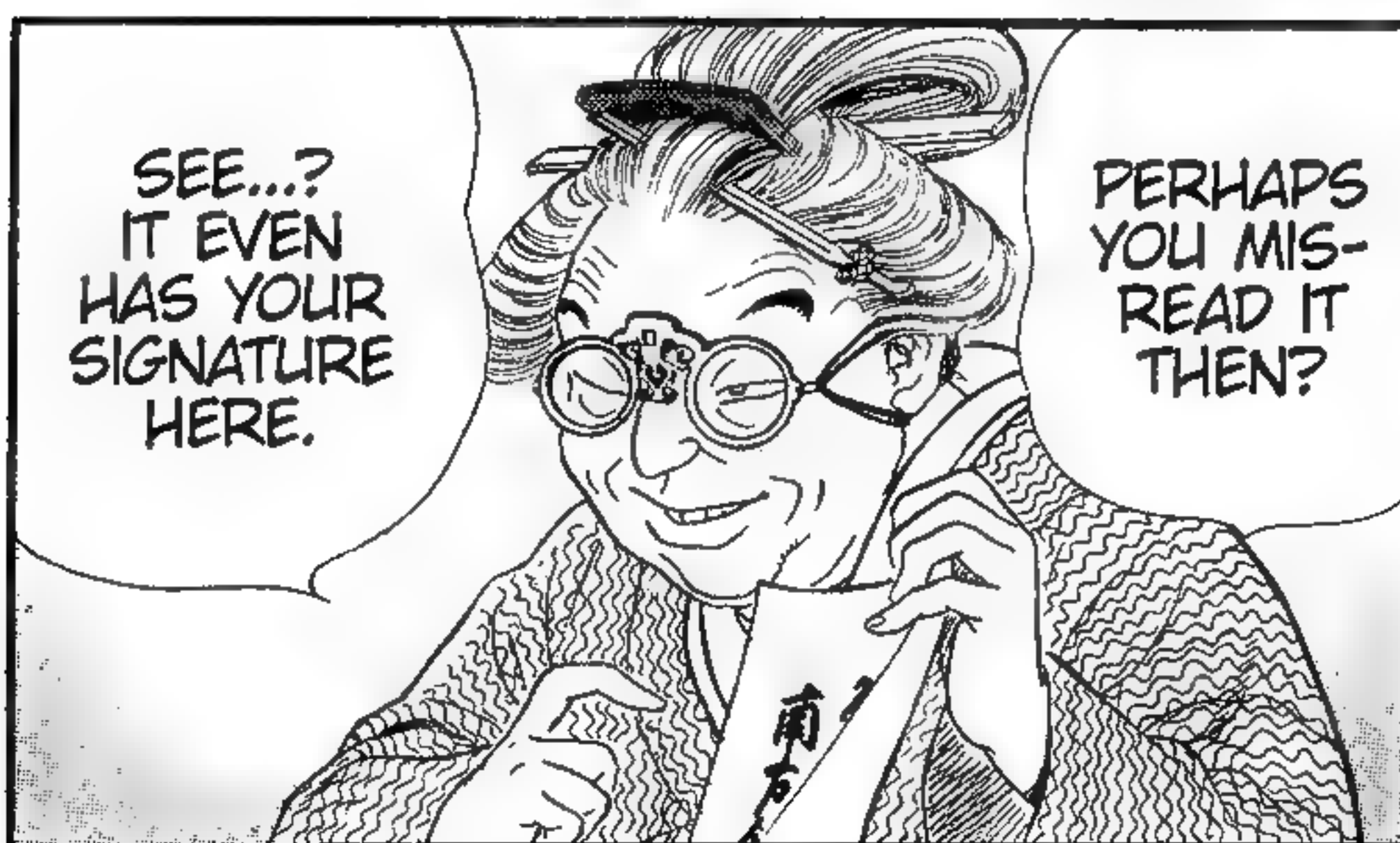




















HERE,  
I HAVE  
THE 400  
RYO!

ONE MOMENT,  
SENSEI! DON'T  
GIVE SOMETHING  
SO IMPORTANT  
OVER TO THAT  
WOMAN!



I, TANOSUKE,  
CANNOT TOLERATE  
THE LIFE OF MY  
BELOVED HATSUNE  
BEING PAID FOR BY  
MONEY THAT THE  
CHUJO MADE OFF  
THE BLOOD OF  
THE ABORTED!

I'M THANKFUL  
TO YOU, SENSEI.  
YOU WENT AS  
FAR AS GOING  
INTO DEBT TO  
SAVE HATSUNE.

CLAK



W-WHO  
ARE YOU?!

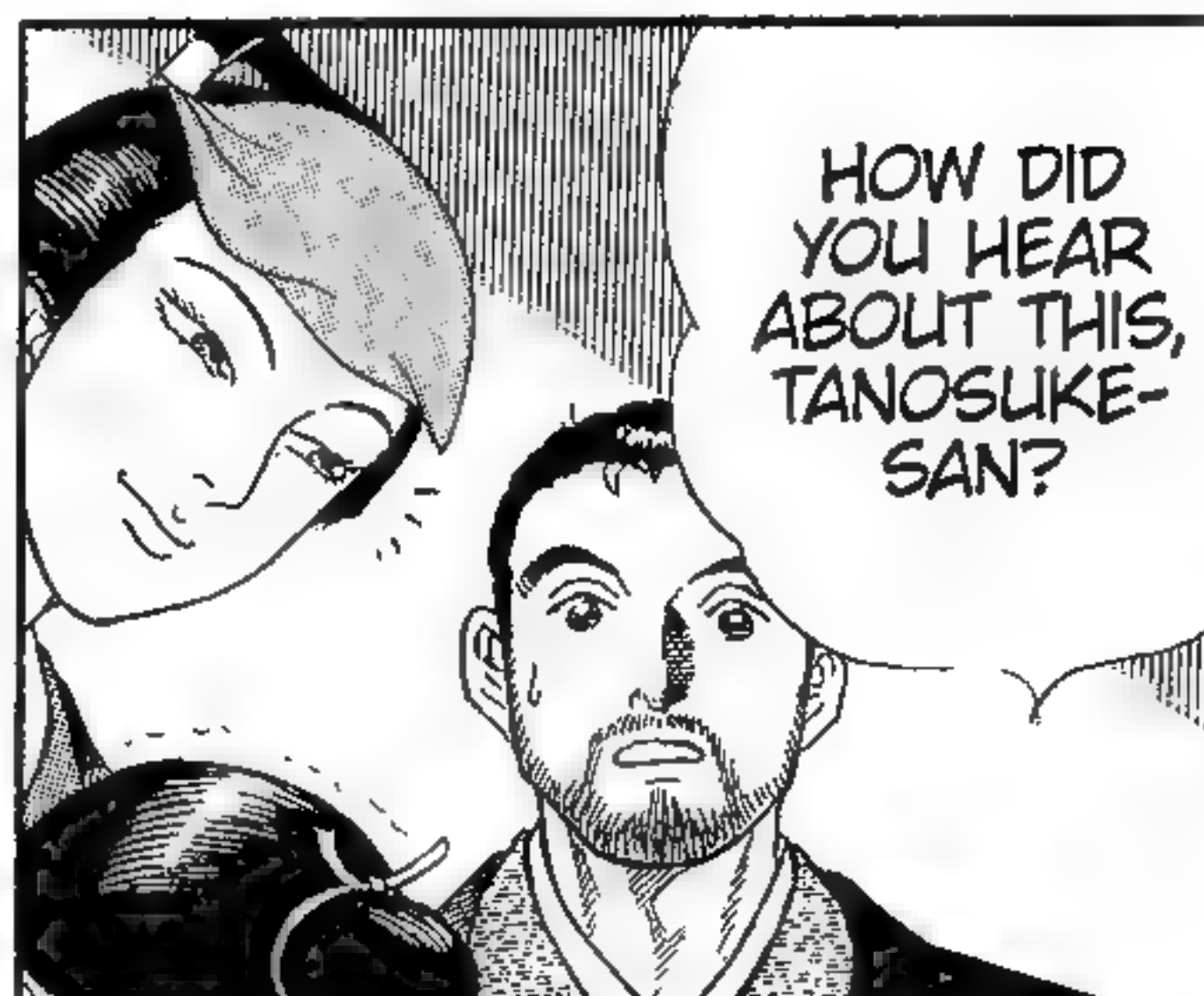
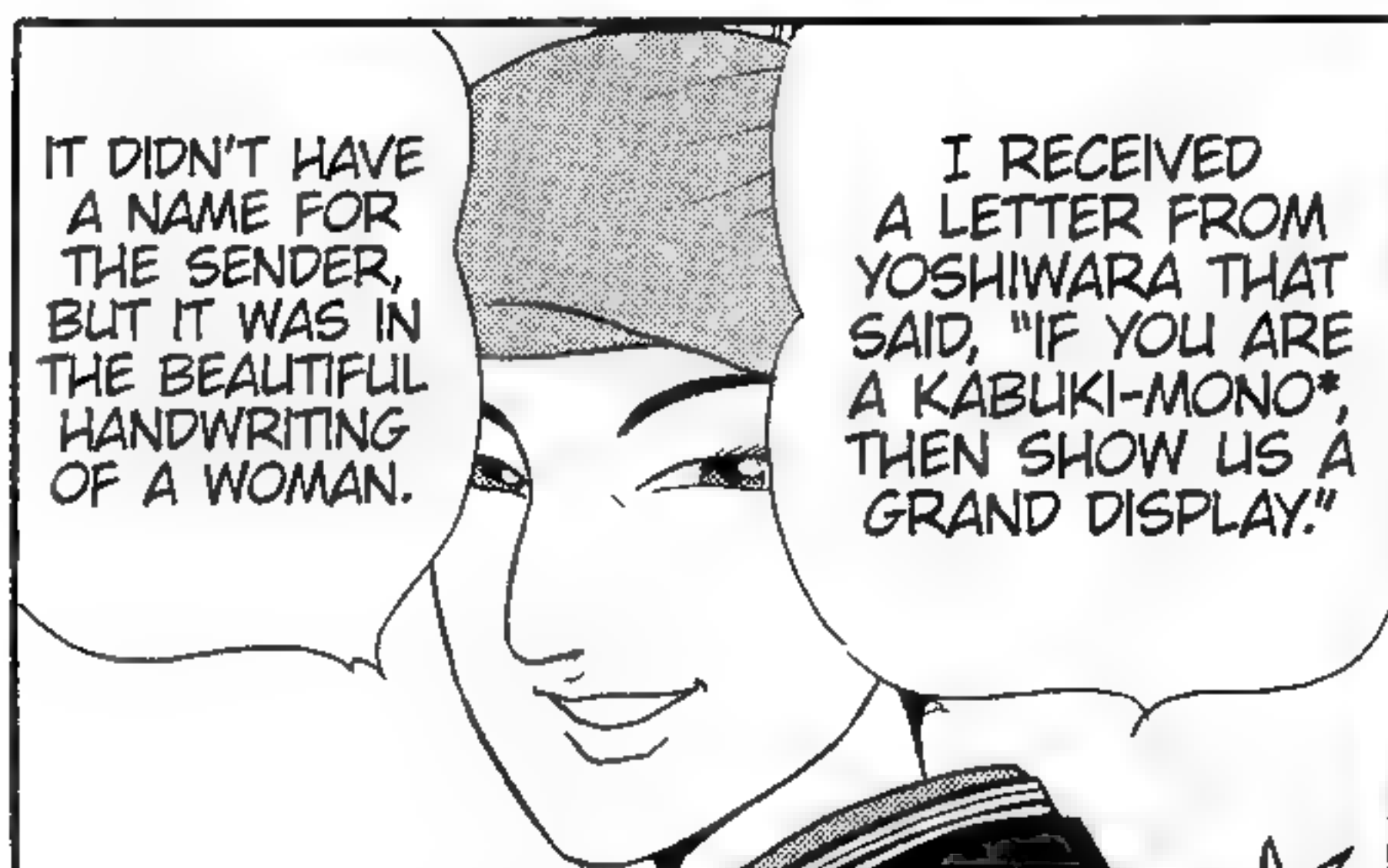
TANO-  
SUKE-  
SAN?!



GYAH!

TAKE YOUR  
MONEY AND  
GET LOST!









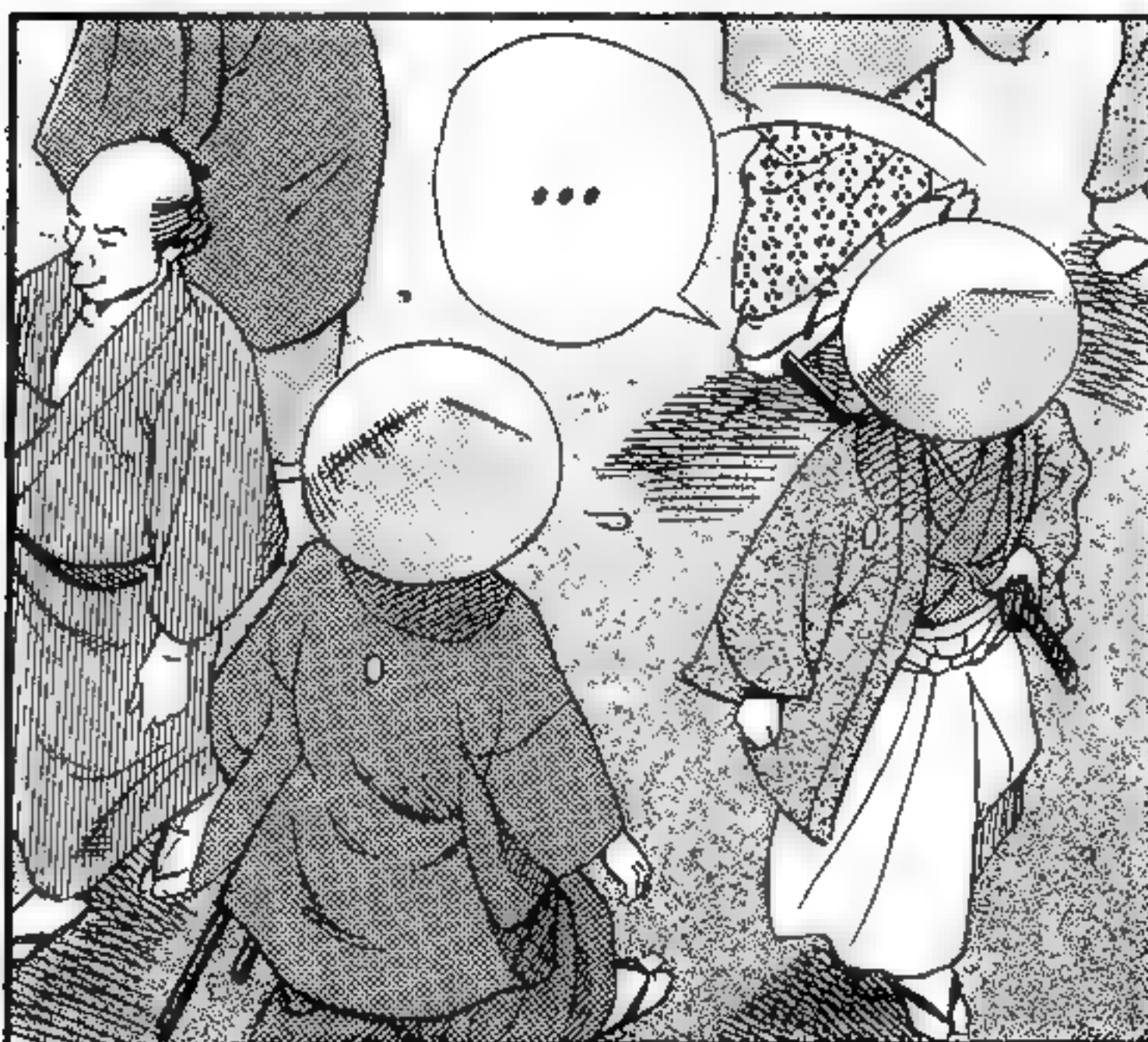
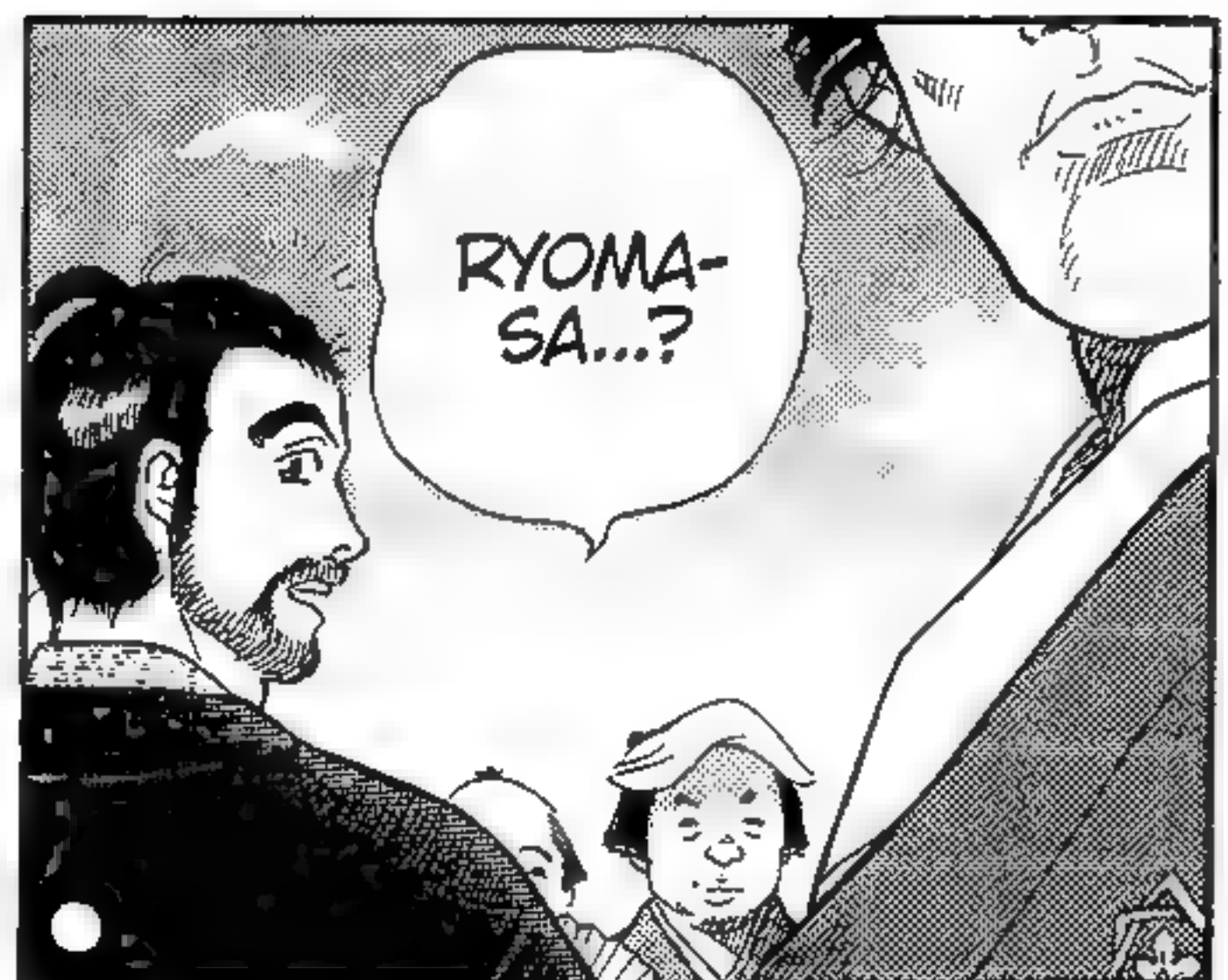
\*A FAMOUS CHARACTER IN KABUKI THEATER KNOWN FOR BEING THE MOST HANDSOME PLAYBOY IN EDO.



















IN THE HISTORY  
THAT I KNOW,  
THIS MAN WILL BE  
ASSASSINATED IN  
JUST A FEW YEARS...  
BEFORE HE'S GIVEN  
THE CHANCE TO SEE  
THE MEIJI RESTO-  
RATION!



BECAUSE OF  
MY EXISTENCE  
HERE...

BUT WAIT...  
HISTORY SHOULD  
BE CHANGING  
ALREADY LITTLE  
BY LITTLE...



I WILL CHANGE  
THE FATE OF THE  
PEOPLE HERE AT  
THE END OF THE  
EDO PERIOD.

IF SO, THEN  
I SHOULD FIND  
MY RESOLVE.  
BY CHANGING  
THE COURSE  
OF MEDICINE  
IN THIS ERA...





**DRAGON  
CHAPTER  
PART 1: THE  
FIREMEN'S  
BANNER**

WHAT  
YOU'VE  
ALL BEEN  
WAITING  
FOR...

\*IT'S CUSTOMARY FOR AUDIENCES TO SHOUT THE HOUSE OF THE ACTOR.

KINO-  
KUNYA!





DRAGON CHAPTER  
PART I: THE FIREMEN'S BANNER

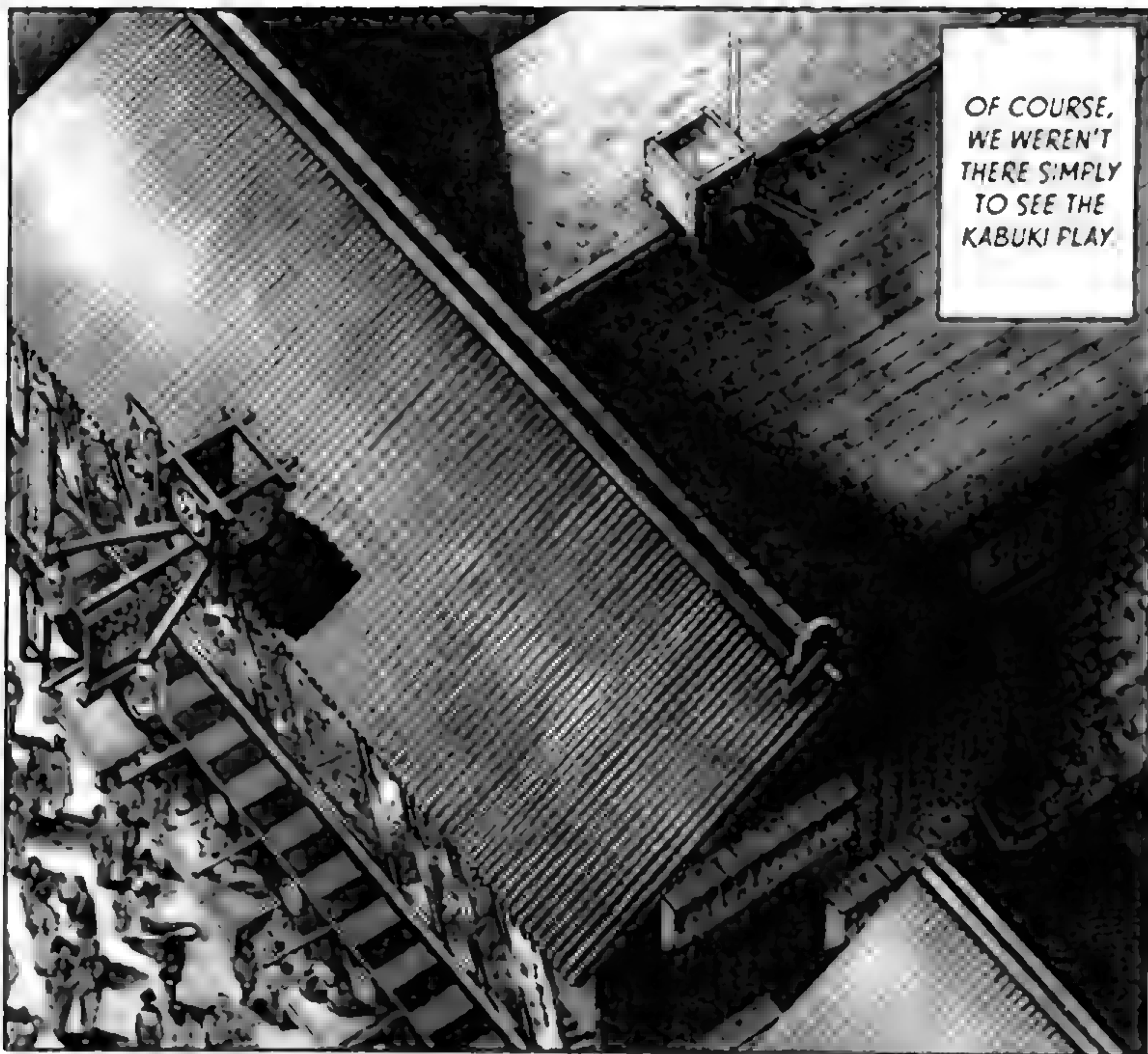
WINTER  
(NOVEMBER)  
THIRD YEAR OF  
BUNKYU (1863)

THE THEATER  
DISTRICT OF  
SARUWAKA-CHO

ON THAT DAY,  
I TOOK SAKI-SAN  
WITH ME TO WATCH  
A PERFORMANCE  
AT THE MORITA-BA  
THEATER STARRING  
TANOSUKE SAWAMURA.







OF COURSE,  
WE WEREN'T  
THERE SIMPLY  
TO SEE THE  
KABUKI PLAY.



AN EMERGENCY  
RESUSCITATOR  
FOR PEOPLE  
THAT ARE HAV-  
ING DIFFICULTY  
BREATHING.

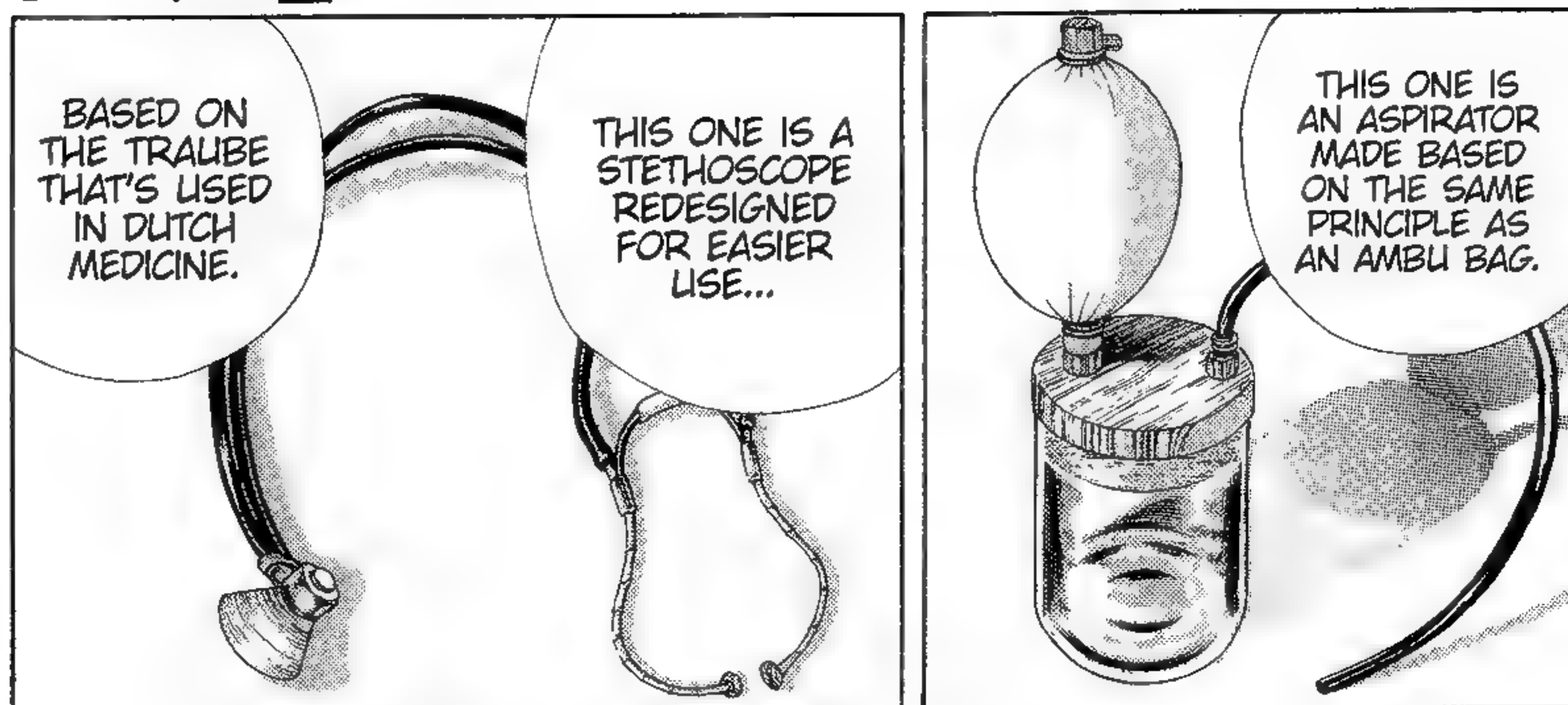
IT'S AN  
AMBU  
BAG...



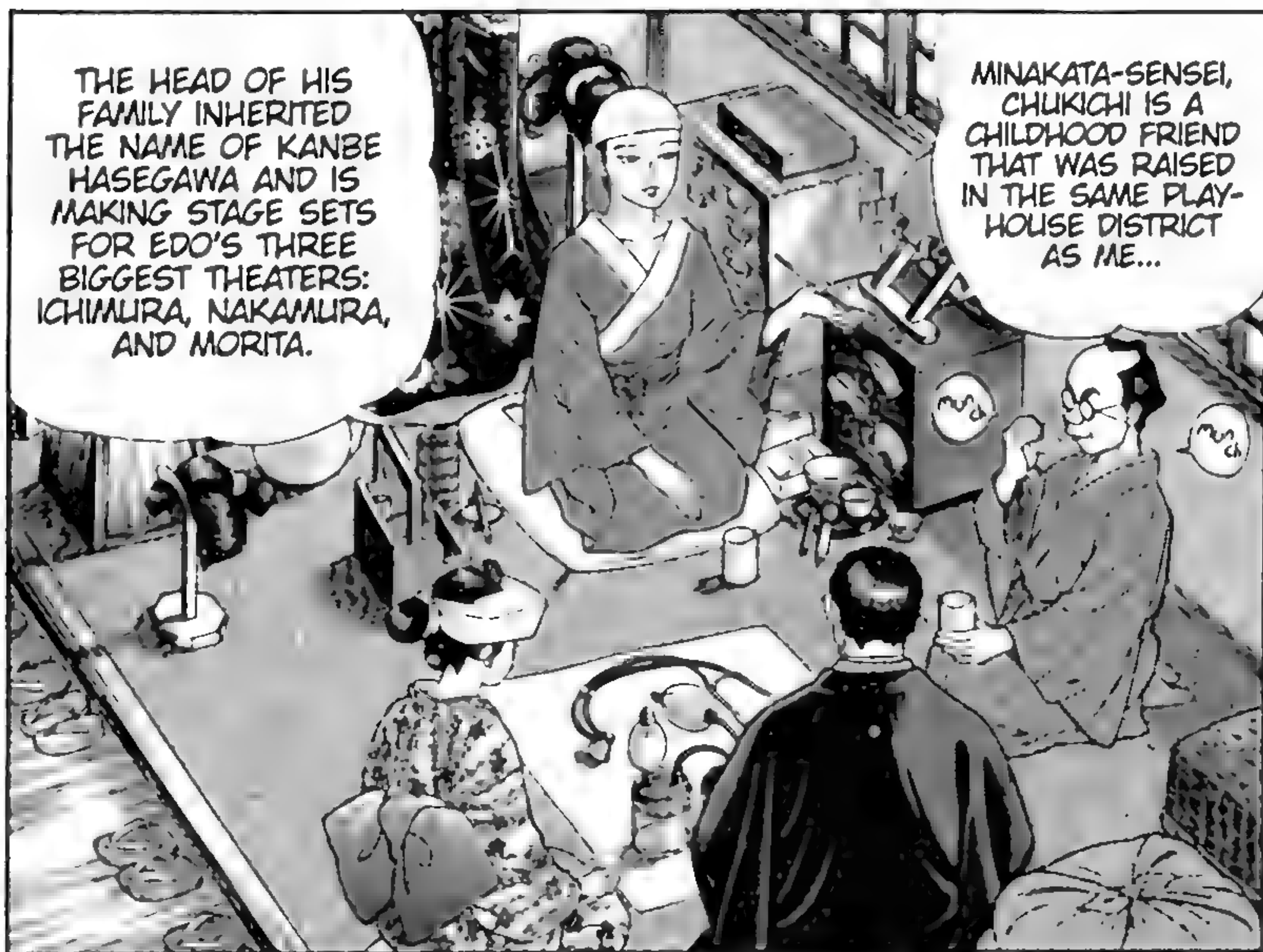
THAT ITEM  
YOU CALLED  
AN AMBU...  
SOMETHING?

WHAT'S  
THIS?  
COULD  
IT BE...







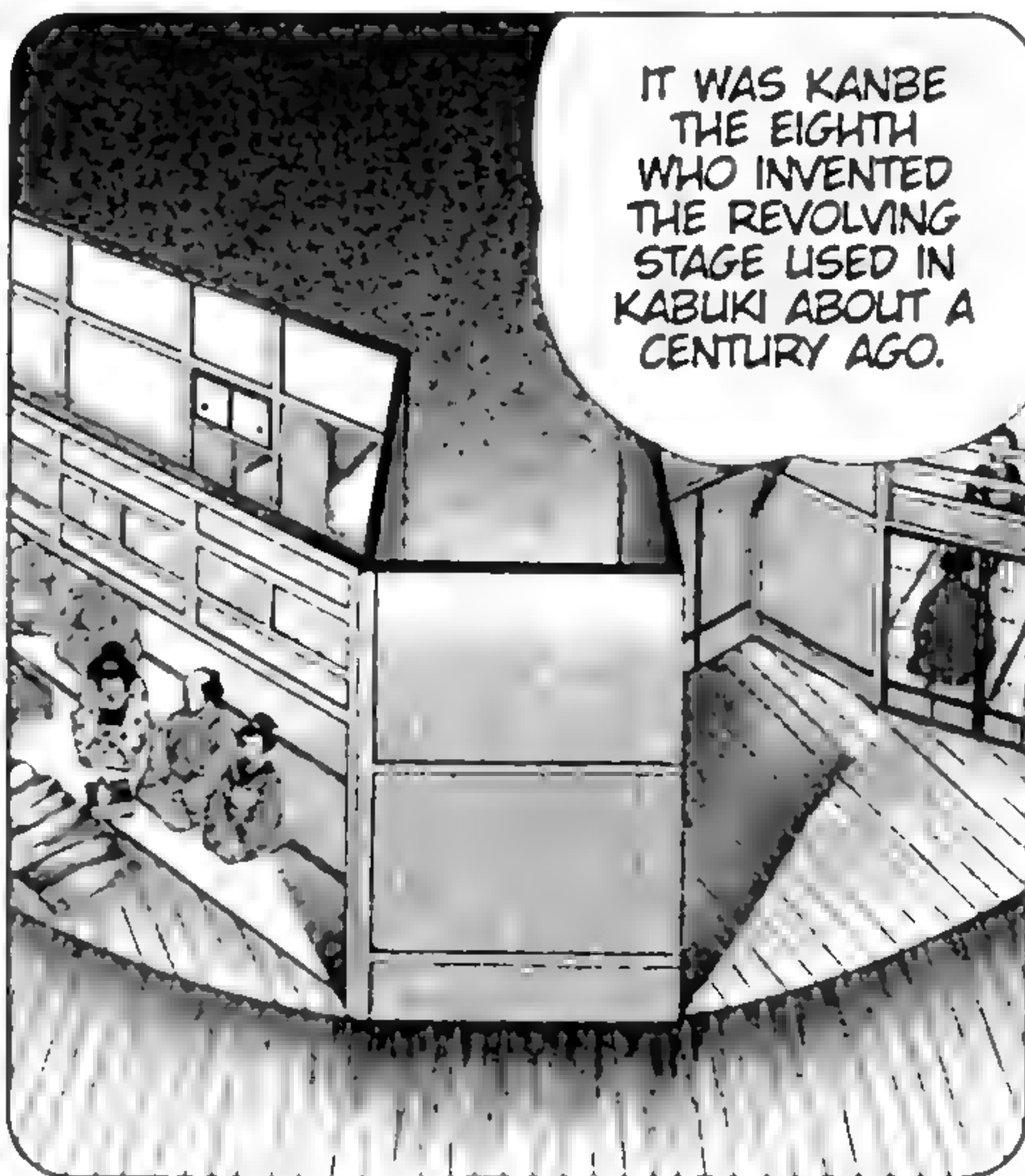


THE HEAD OF HIS FAMILY INHERITED THE NAME OF KANBE HASEGAWA AND IS MAKING STAGE SETS FOR EDO'S THREE BIGGEST THEATERS: ICHIMURA, NAKAMURA, AND MORITA.

MINAKATA-SENSEI, CHUKICHI IS A CHILDHOOD FRIEND THAT WAS RAISED IN THE SAME PLAYHOUSE DISTRICT AS ME...

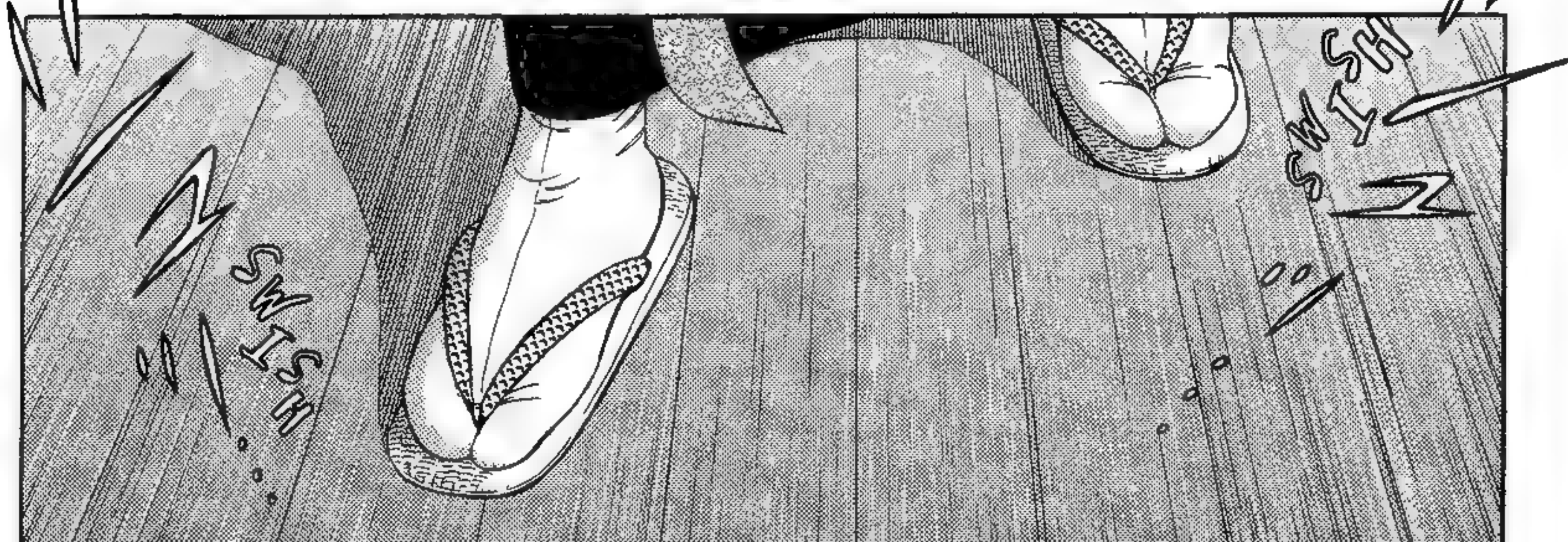
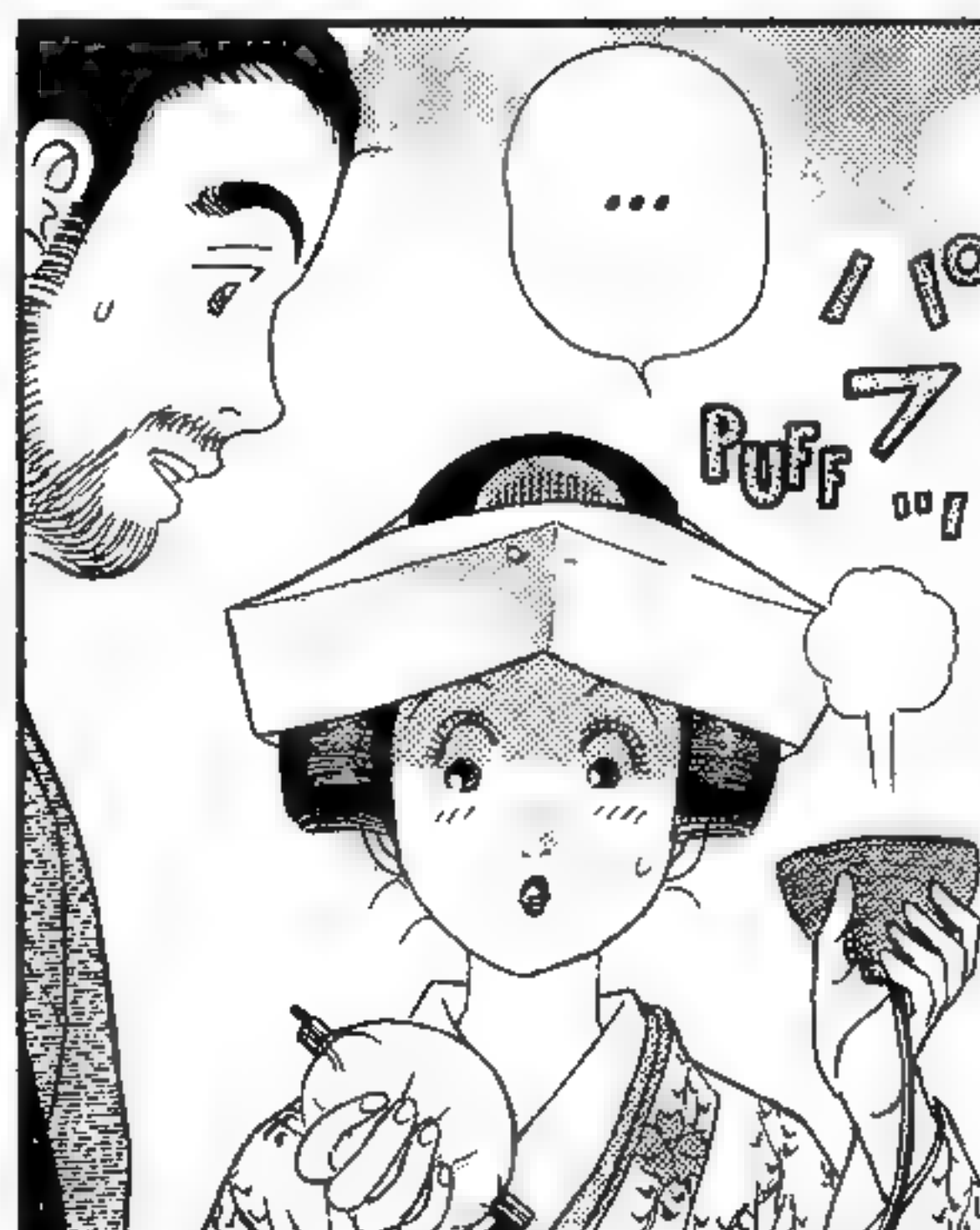
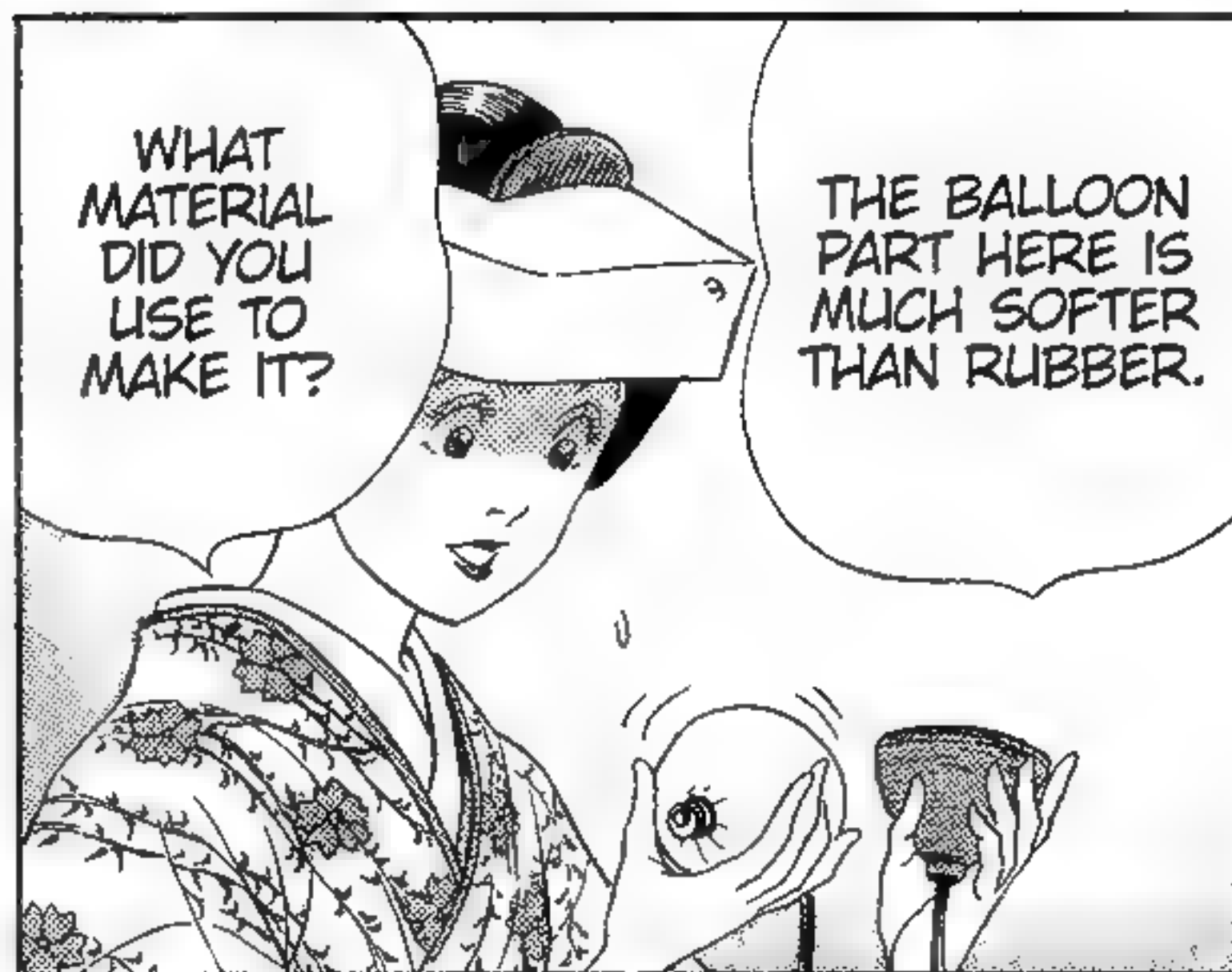
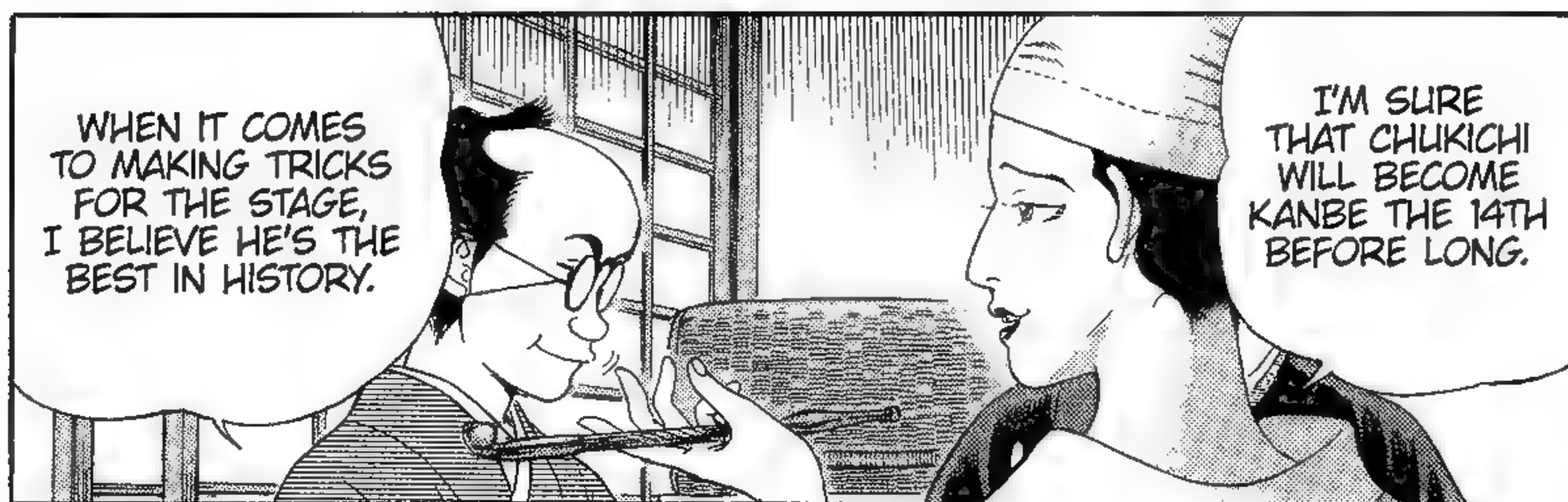


KANBE THE 11TH CAME UP WITH MULTIPLE DEVICES USED IN GHOST STORIES AND IS REVERED FOR BRINGING ABOUT THE REVIVAL OF KABUKI.

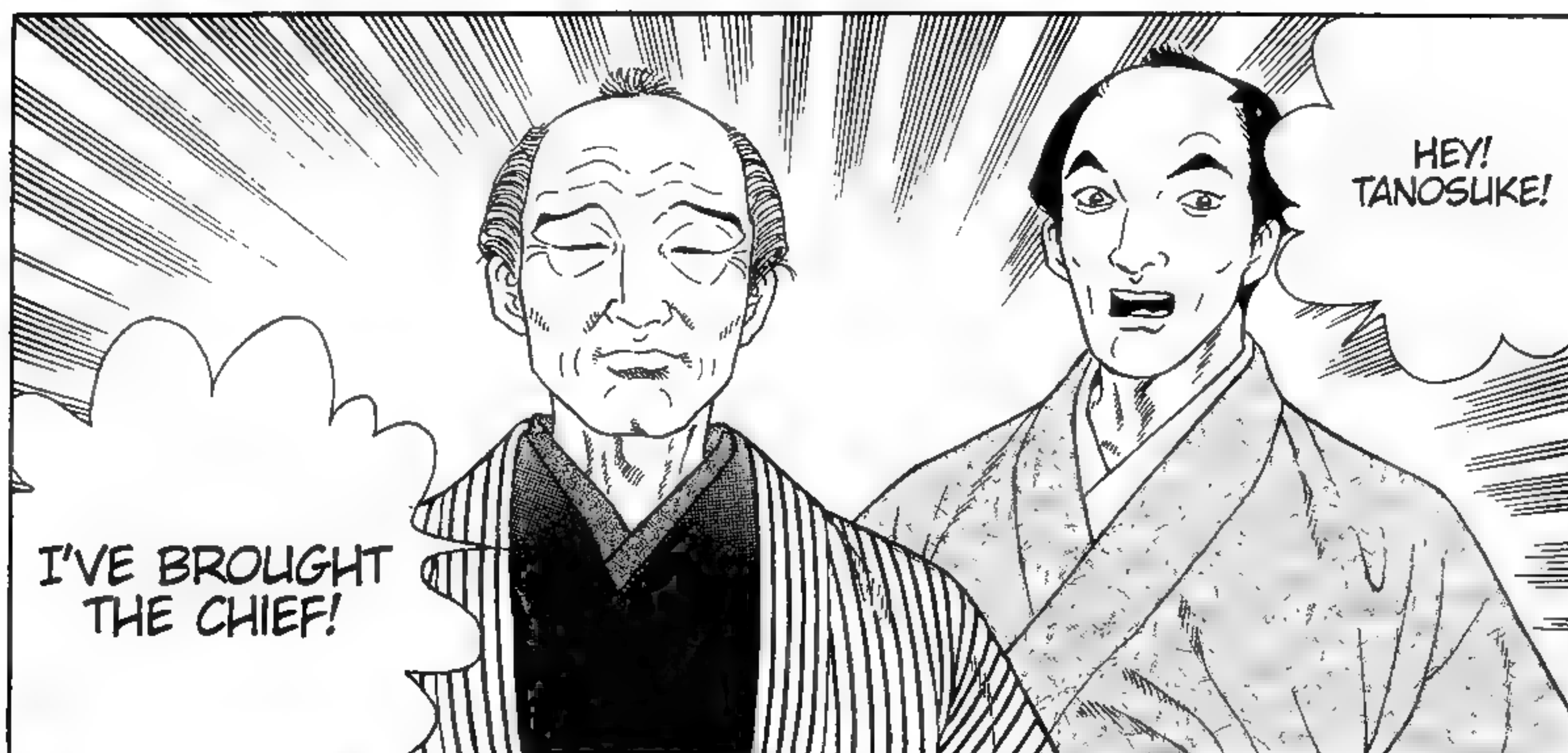


IT WAS KANBE THE EIGHTH WHO INVENTED THE REVOLVING STAGE USED IN KABUKI ABOUT A CENTURY AGO.



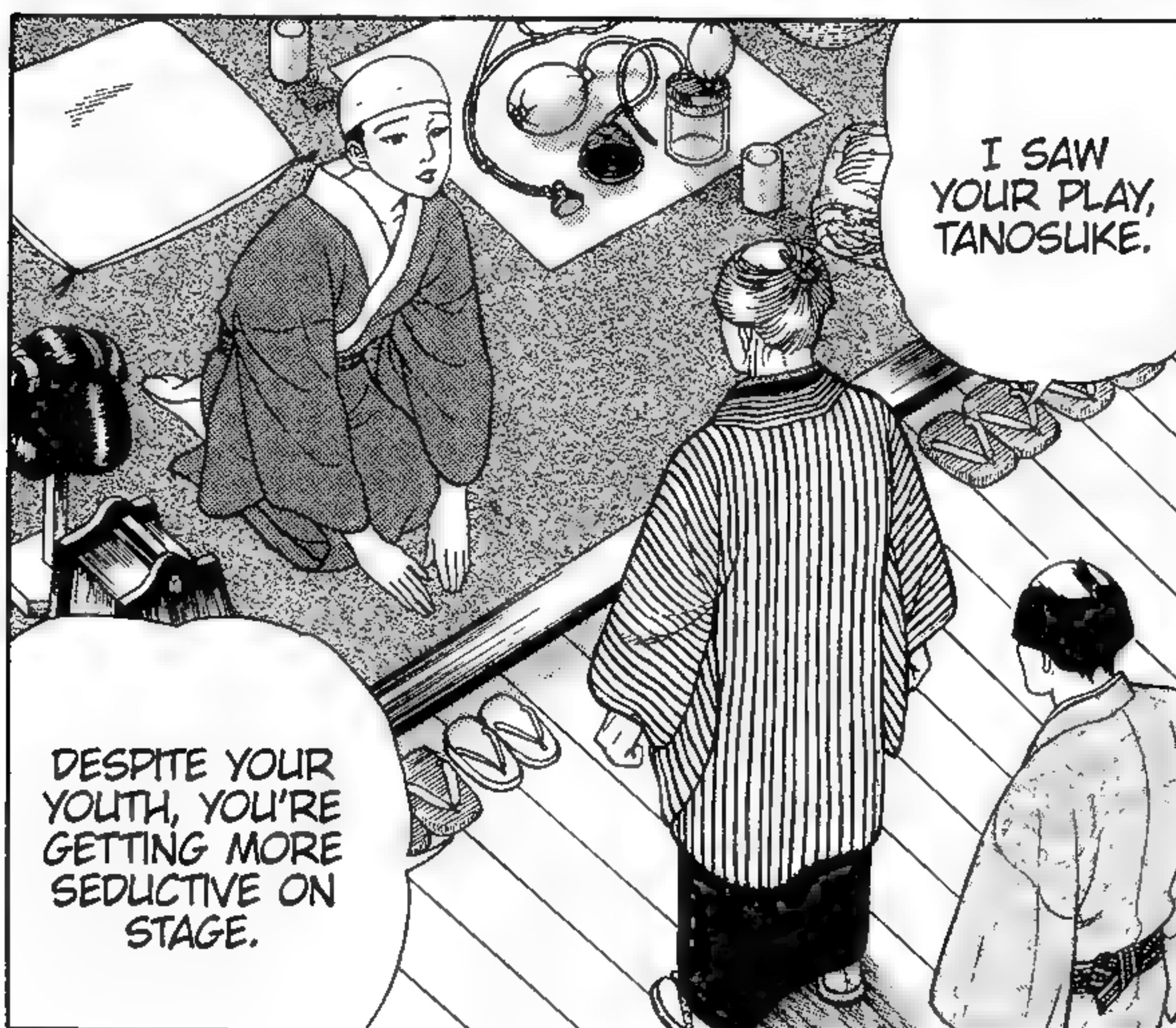






I'VE BROUGHT  
THE CHIEF!

HEY!  
TANOSLUKE!



I SAW  
YOUR PLAY,  
TANOSLUKE.

DESPITE YOUR  
YOUTH, YOU'RE  
GETTING MORE  
SEDUCTIVE ON  
STAGE.



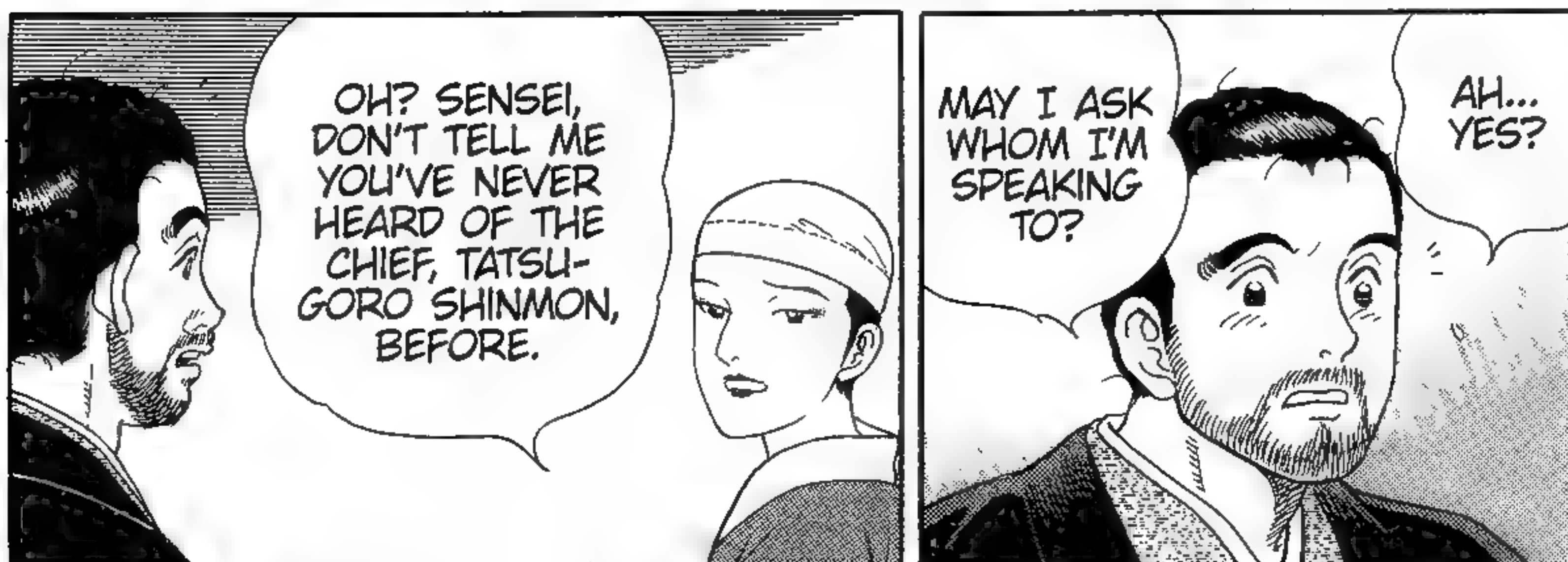
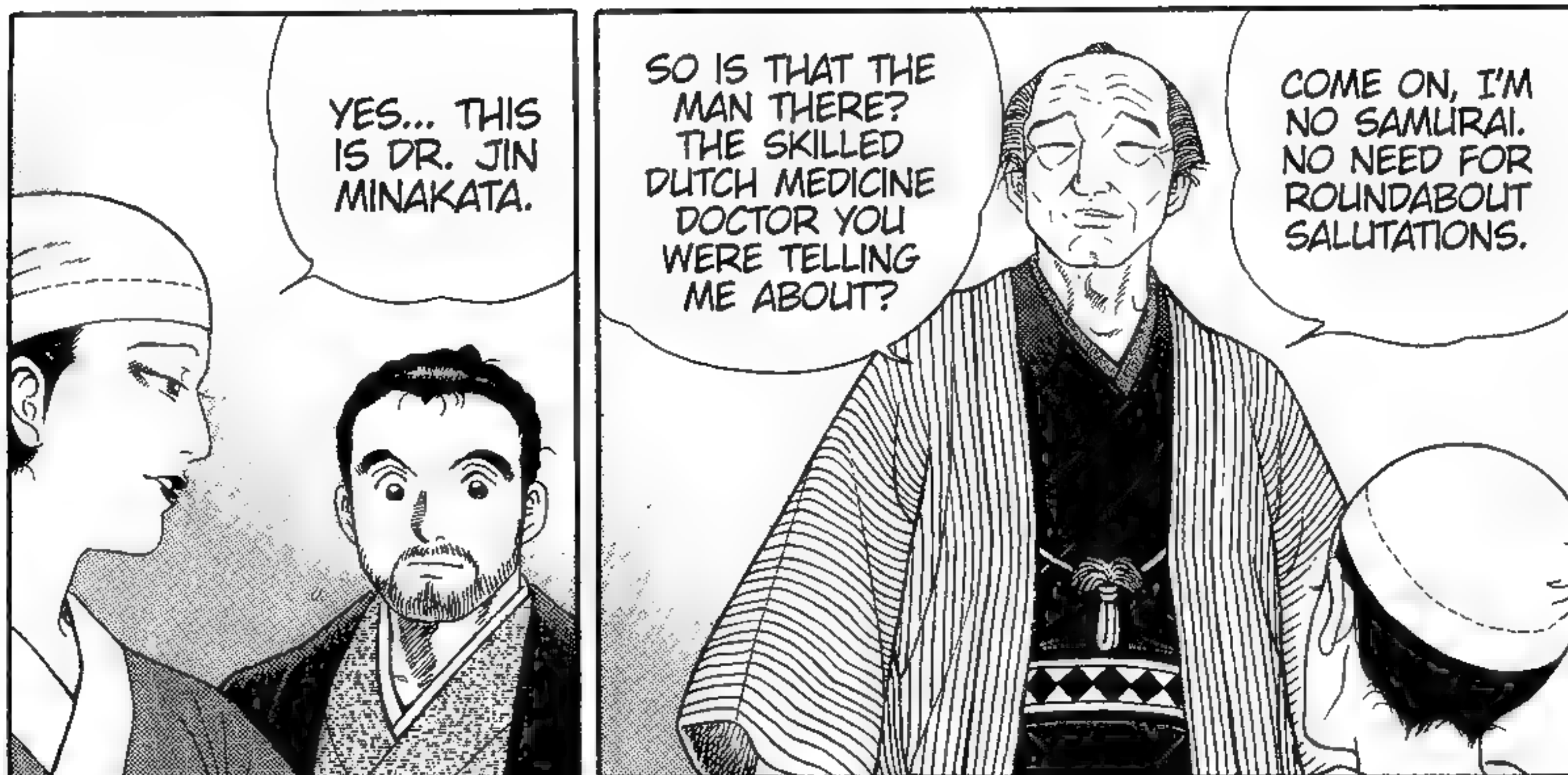
THANK YOU,  
SENKICHI-  
SAN.



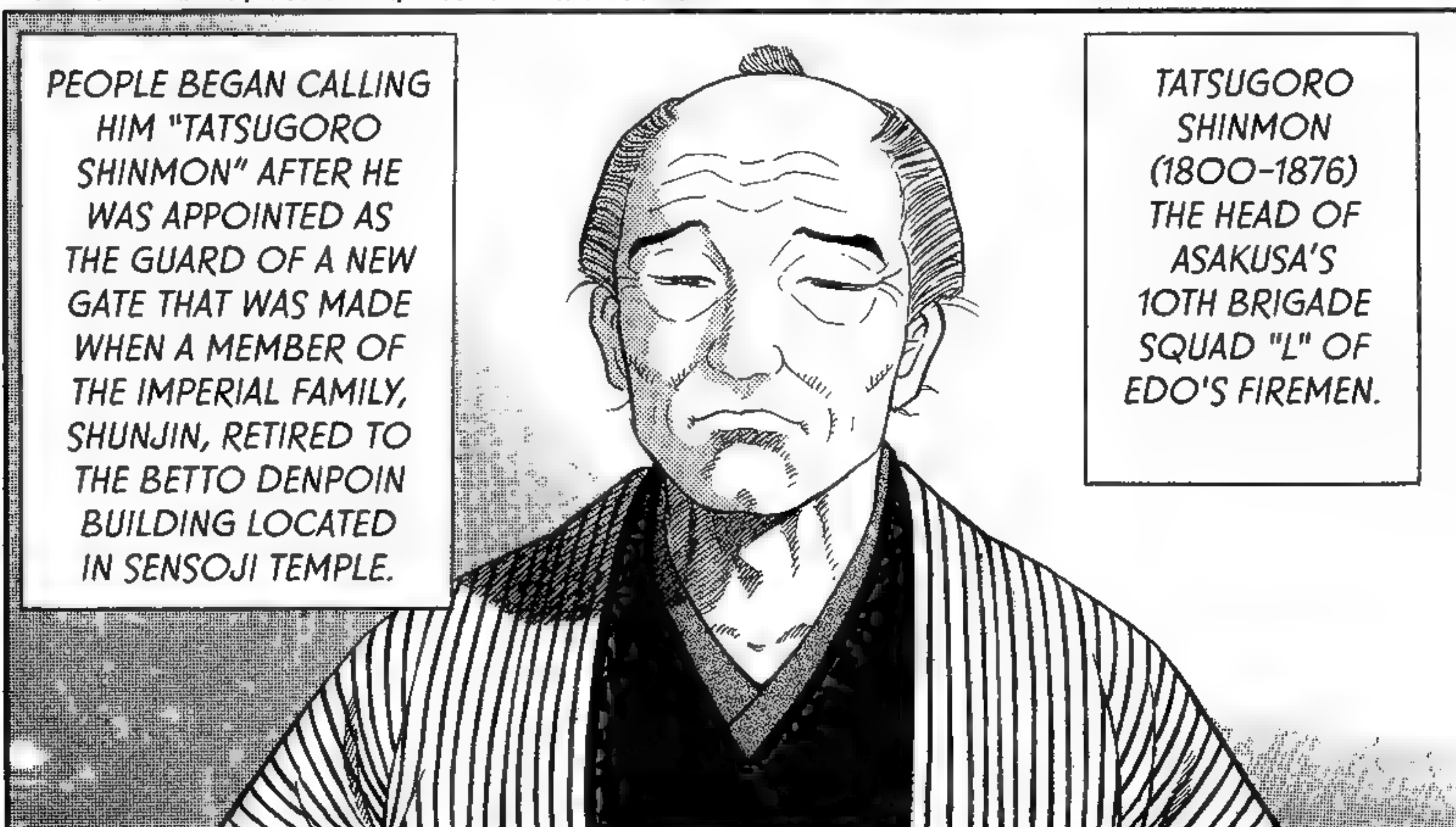
PLEASE FORGIVE  
MY IMPOLITENESS  
FOR CALLING YOU  
OUT HERE...

I'M VERY  
FLATTERED,  
CHIEF SHIN-  
MON.

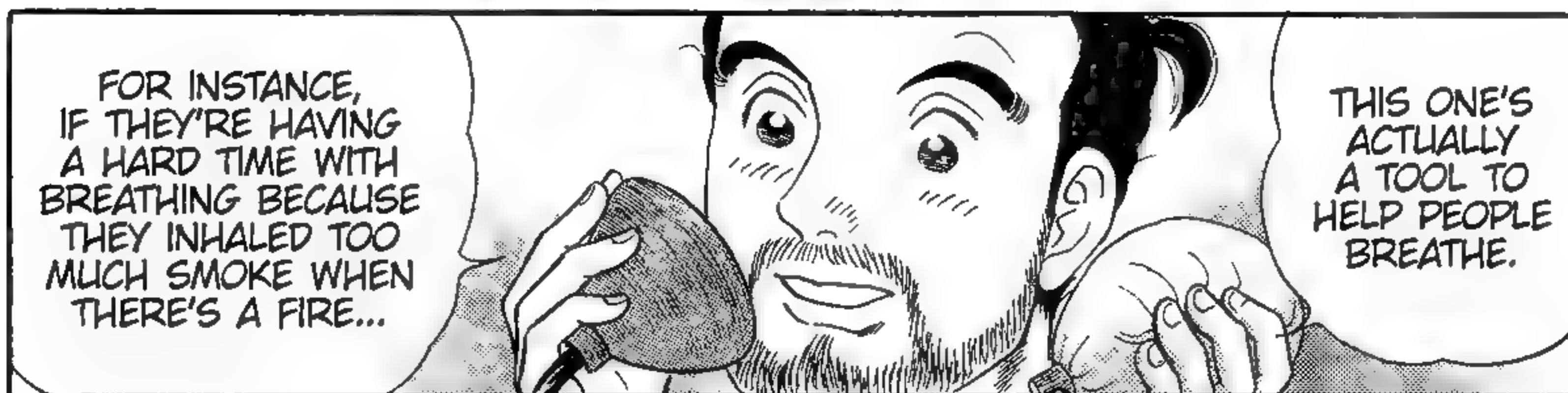




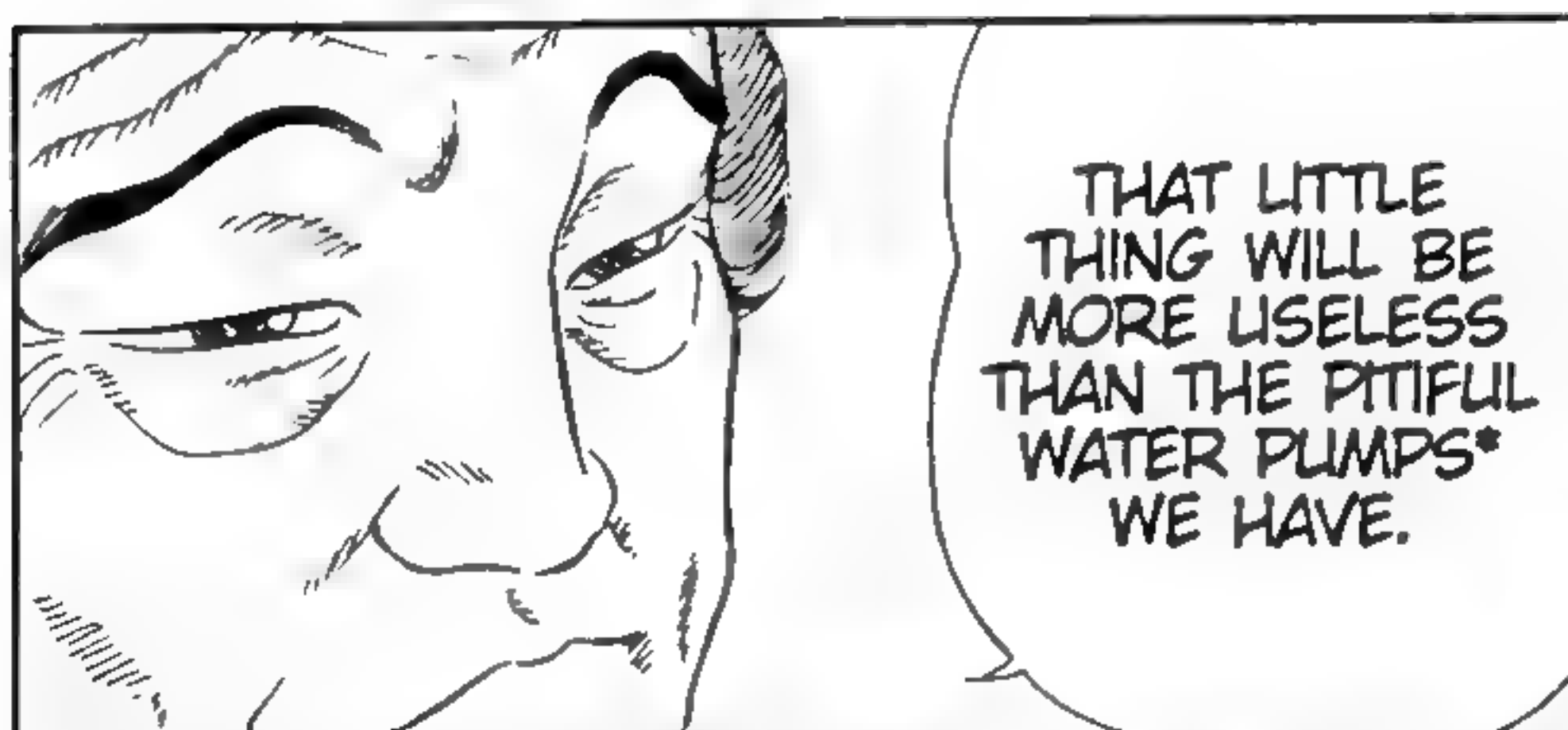
\*HIS LAST NAME, SHINMON, MEANS "NEW GATE."









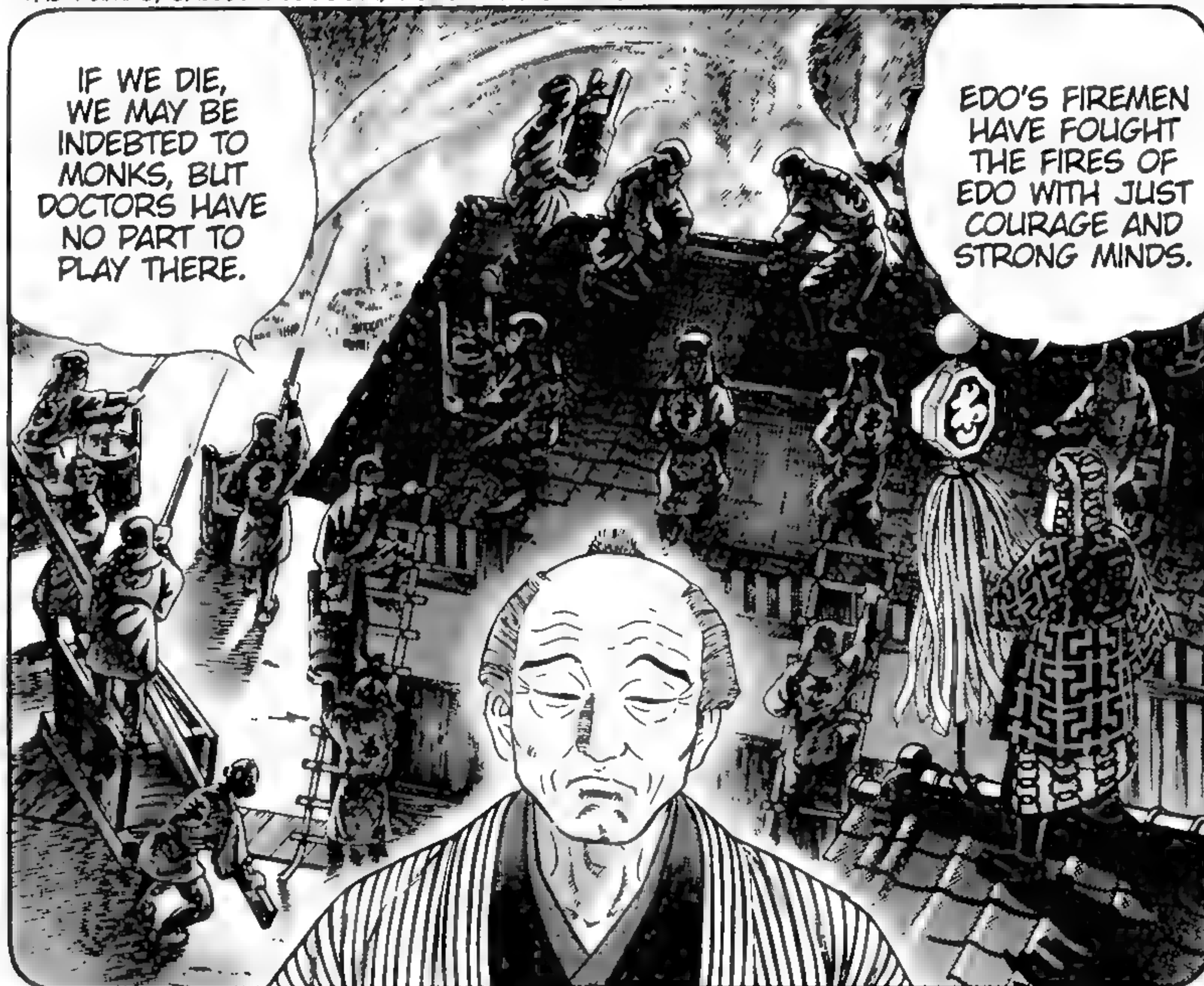


THAT LITTLE  
THING WILL BE  
MORE USELESS  
THAN THE PITIFUL  
WATER PUMPS\*  
WE HAVE.



WHAT?!

\*THE PUMPS, CALLED RYUDOSUI, WERE ONLY GOOD FOR CONTAINING THE SPREAD OF FIRE.



IF WE DIE,  
WE MAY BE  
INDEBTED TO  
MONKS, BUT  
DOCTORS HAVE  
NO PART TO  
PLAY THERE.

EDO'S FIREMEN  
HAVE FOUGHT  
THE FIRES OF  
EDO WITH JUST  
COURAGE AND  
STRONG MINDS.



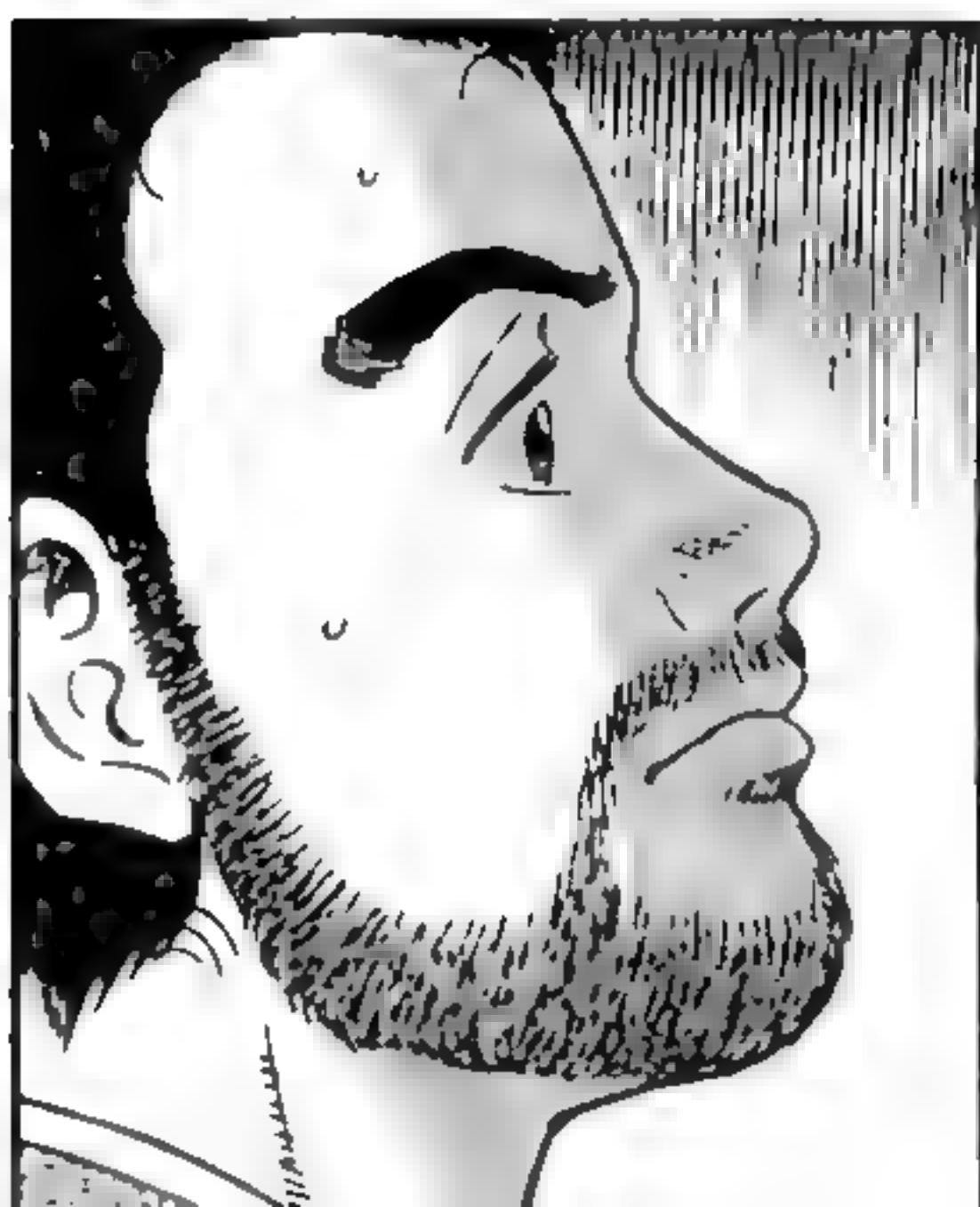
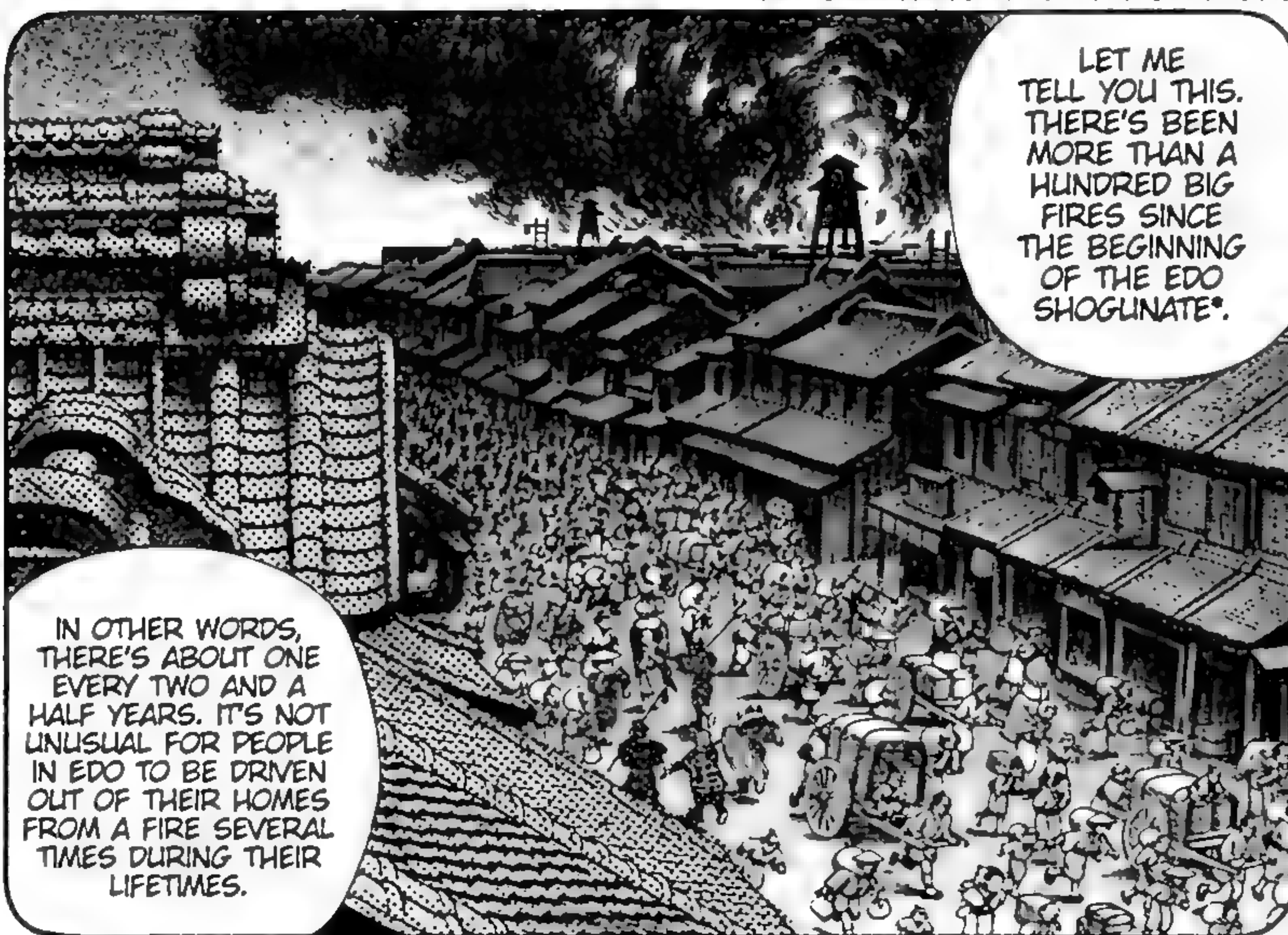
BUT MINA-  
KATA-SENSEI  
ISN'T LIKE THE  
OTHER QUACKS  
OUT THERE. HE  
HAS PLENTY  
OF GLITS.

NOW,  
NOW, CHIEF  
TATSUGORO,  
I KNOW YOU  
DON'T LIKE  
DOCTORS...





\*EDO (TOKUGAWA) SHOGUNATE (1603-1867)











AND SINCE HE ACTS AS A SUPERVISOR FOR STREET ENTERTAINERS, MERCHANTS, AND HAWKERS WHO PAY HIM EVERY DAY IN THE PRECINCTS OF THE SENSOU TEMPLE, HE'S ALSO BLESSED WITH FINANCIAL POWER.

HE'S KNOWN FOR HIS OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP WHEN FACING FIRE AND HIS GUTS IN SETTLING NUMEROUS LARGE FIGHTS. HE'S EVEN GOT MORE THAN THREE THOUSAND FOLLOWERS!

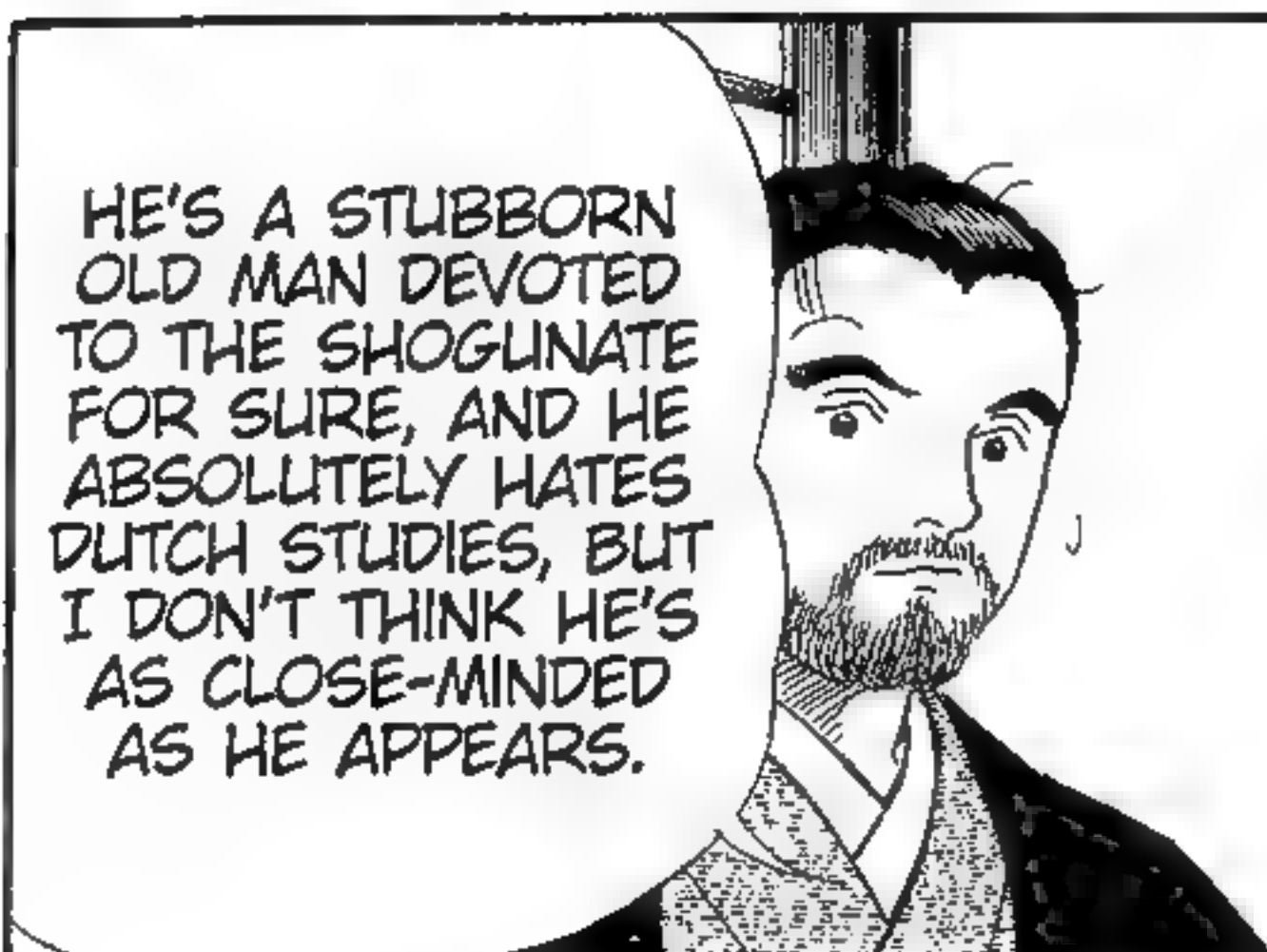
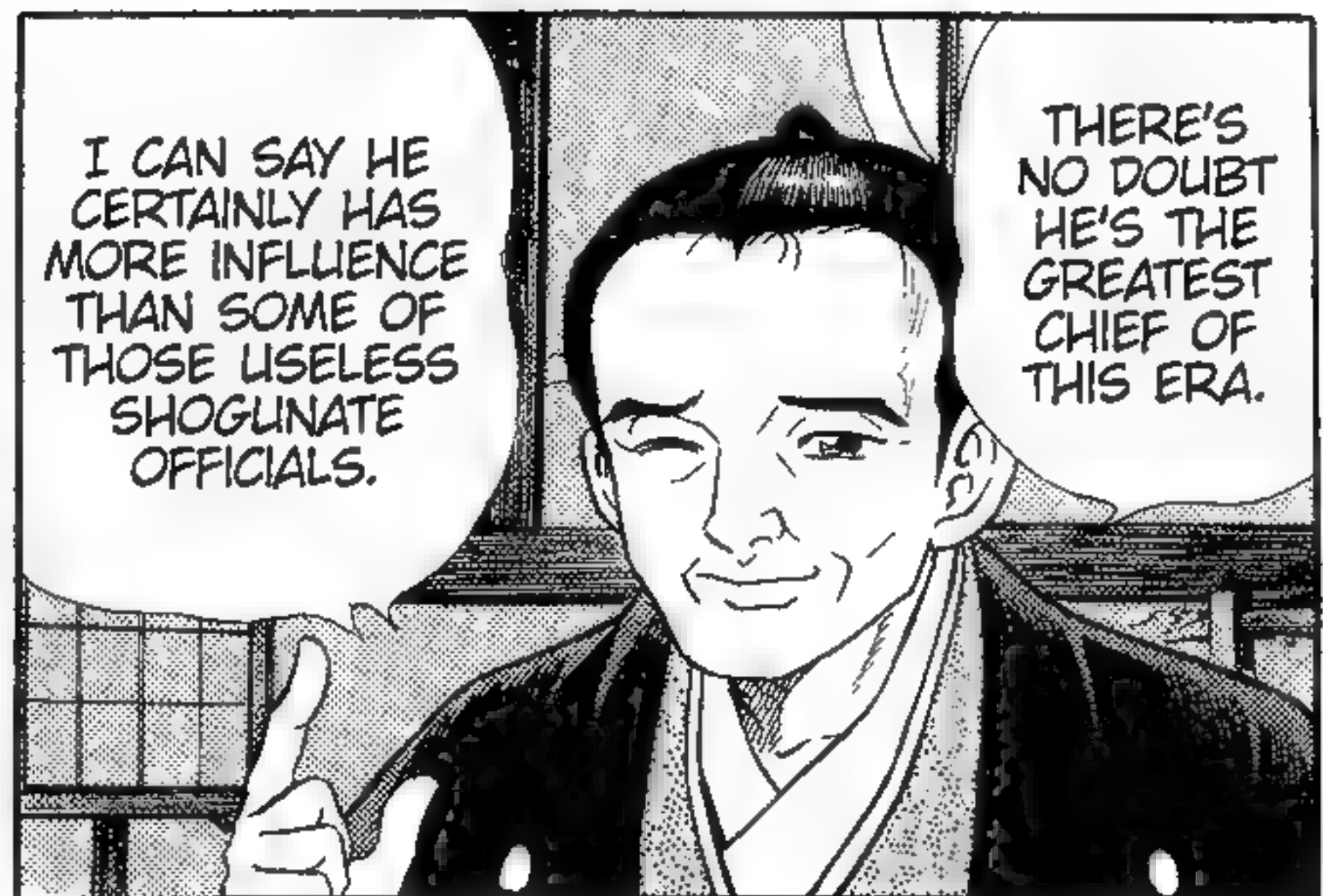
\*LATER KNOWN AS YOSHINOBU TOKUGAWA, THE LAST SHOGUN



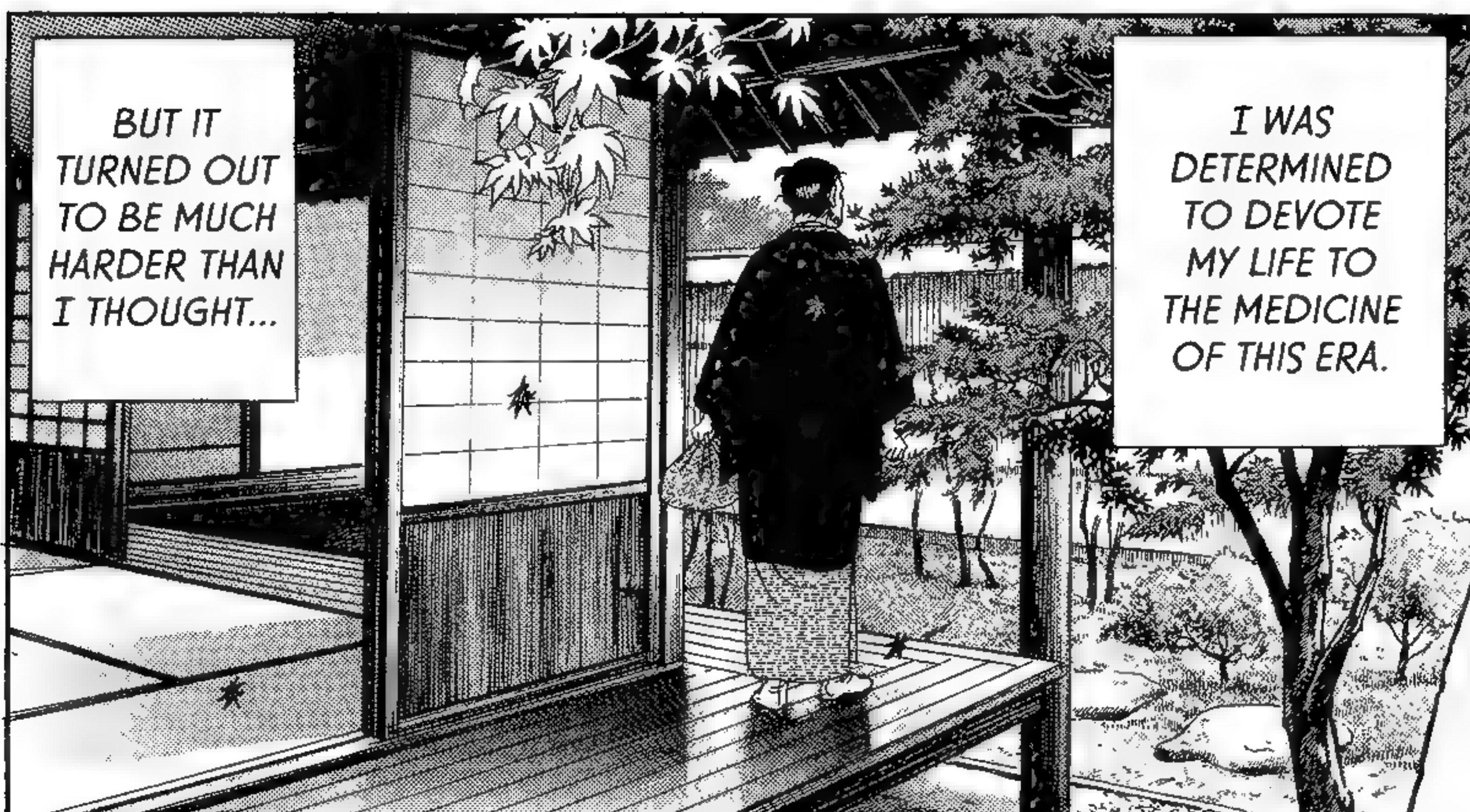
HE GUARDED THE LORD OF KYOTO WITH 300 OF HIS FOLLOWERS AT THE END OF LAST YEAR.

DESPITE BEING A MERE TOWNSMAN, HE'S FAVORED BY LORD HITOTSUBASHI-GYOKU...













HOWEVER,  
SINCE NATURAL  
PENICILLIN IS  
UNSTABLE, IF IT  
ISN'T USED WHILE  
IT'S FRESH, IT HAS  
TO BE THROWN  
AWAY ONE AFTER  
ANOTHER.

I WAS ABLE  
TO MAKE THE  
ARRANGEMENTS  
FOR PENICILLIN  
PRODUCTION  
THANKS TO GIHE  
HAMAGUCHI.



MY INITIAL  
INTENT OF  
USING THE  
INSTITUTE  
TO SPREAD  
PENICILLIN  
HAS FAILED.

AFTER  
KOAN OGATA-  
SENSEI DIED,  
MY VISITS TO  
THE MEDICAL  
INSTITUTE  
BECAME LESS  
AND LESS  
FREQUENT.



BUT  
I DON'T  
EVEN KNOW  
WHERE TO  
START.

NOW THAT  
THINGS HAVE  
COME TO THIS,  
I NEED TO BUILD  
MY OWN CLINIC  
SO I CAN TREAT  
PATIENTS...



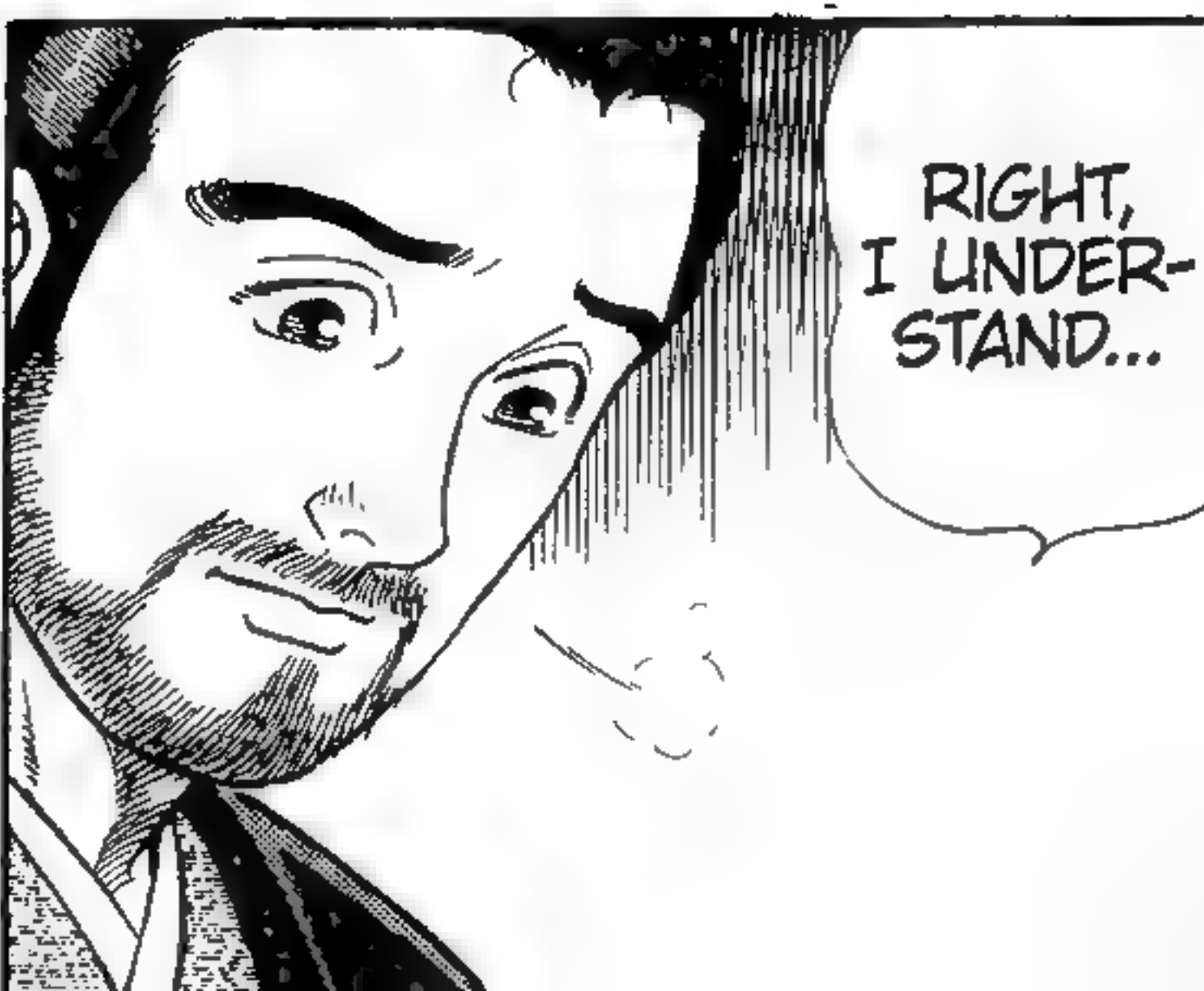


YOSHI-  
WARA

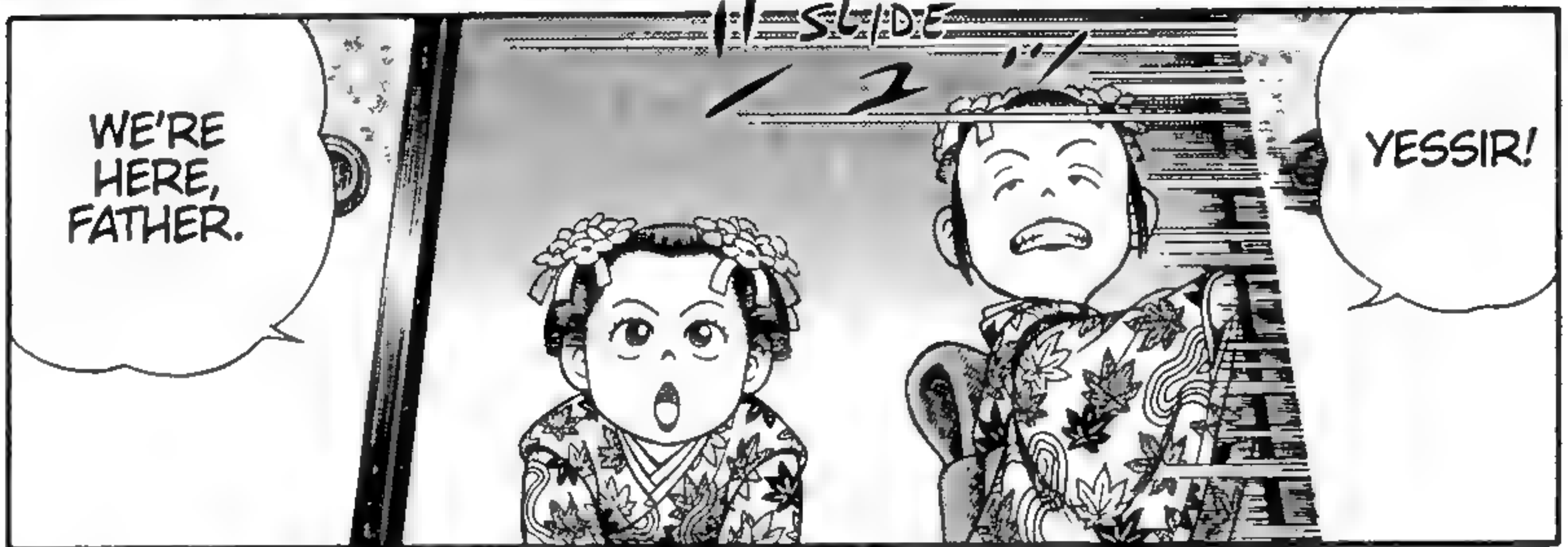
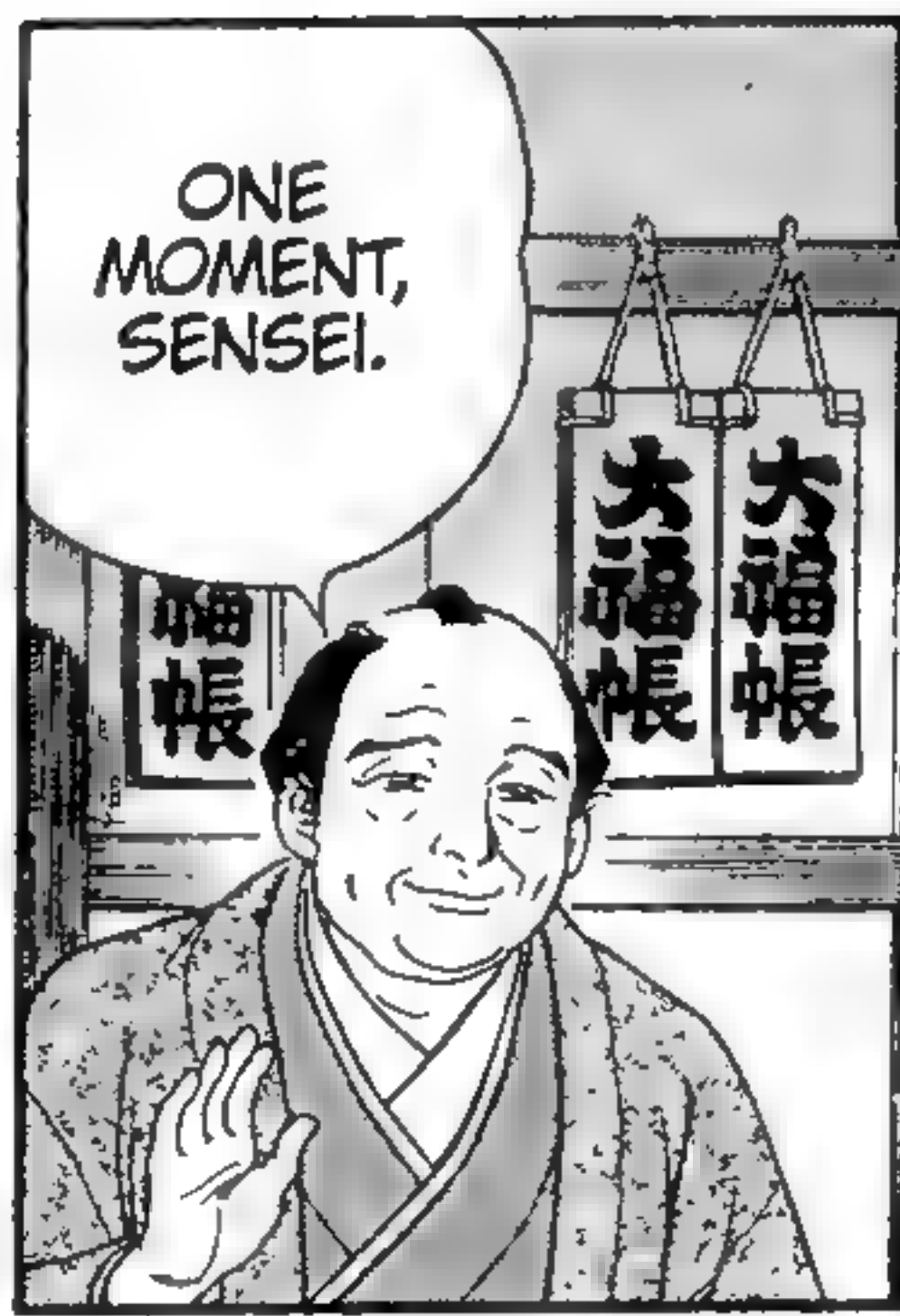


THE SUZUYA  
HOUSE,  
SECOND  
BLOCK OF  
EDO-CHO  
STREET

















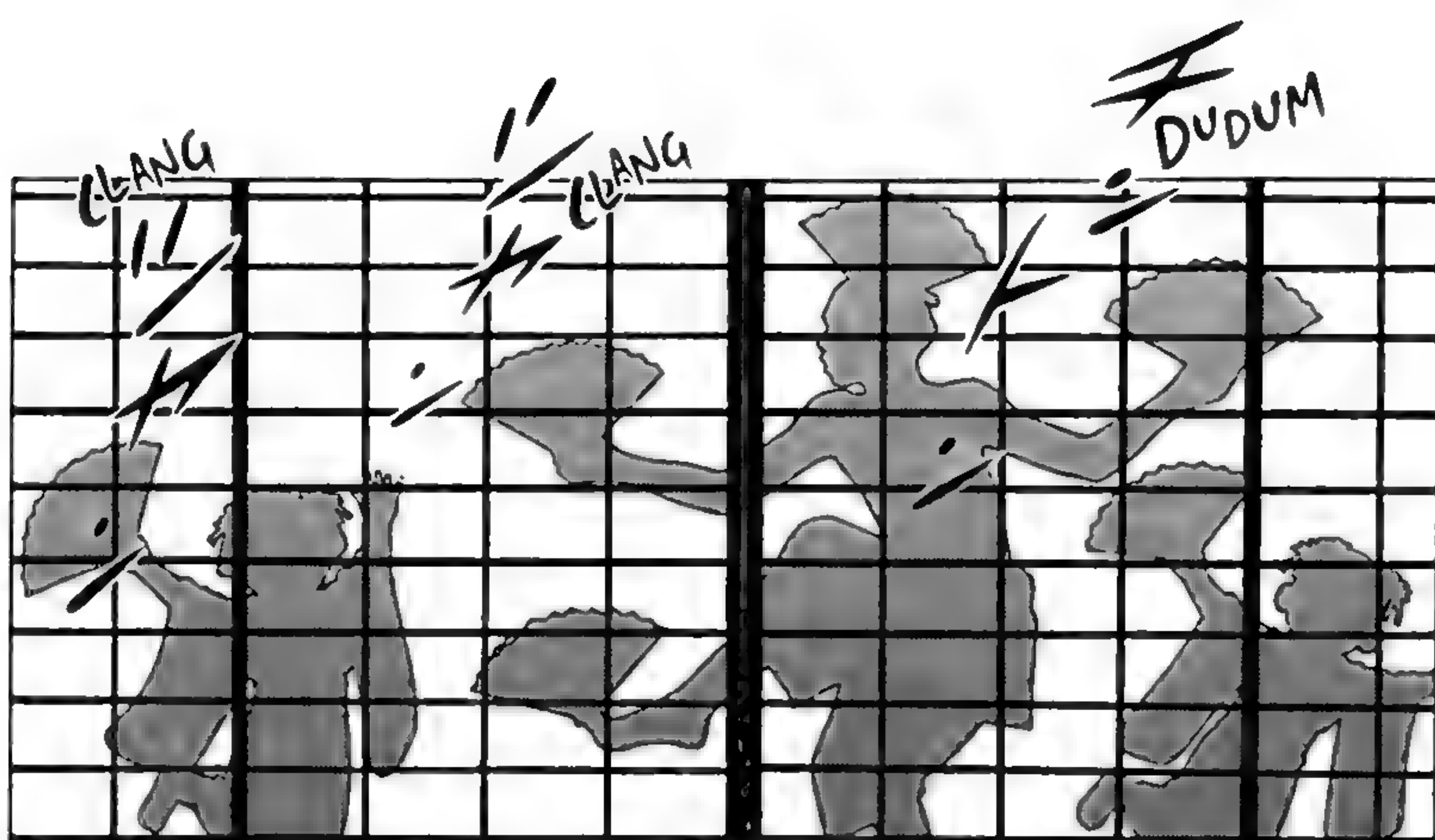












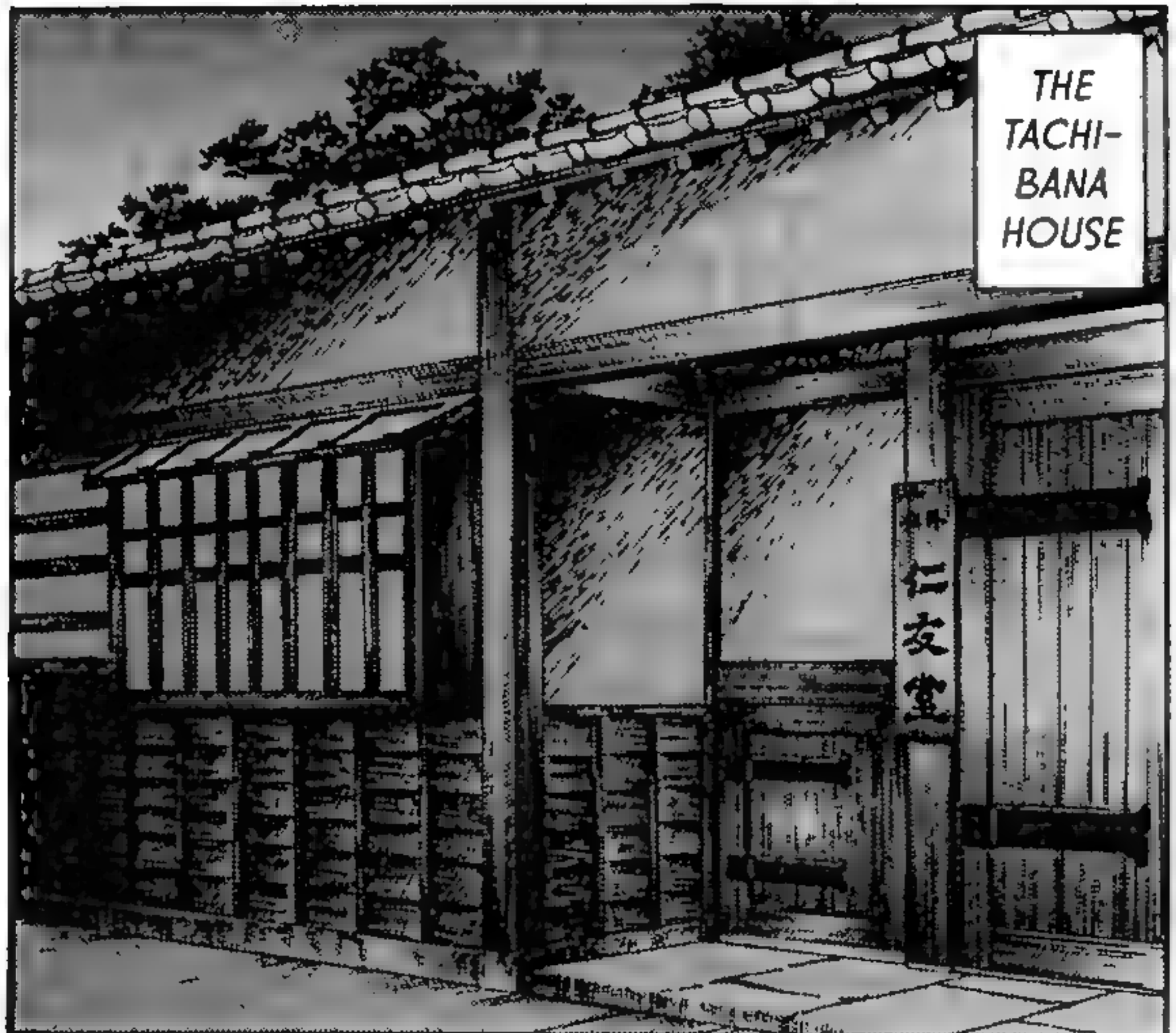




\*BU IS ANOTHER CURRENCY IN THE EDO PERIOD. 4 BU = 1 RYO.



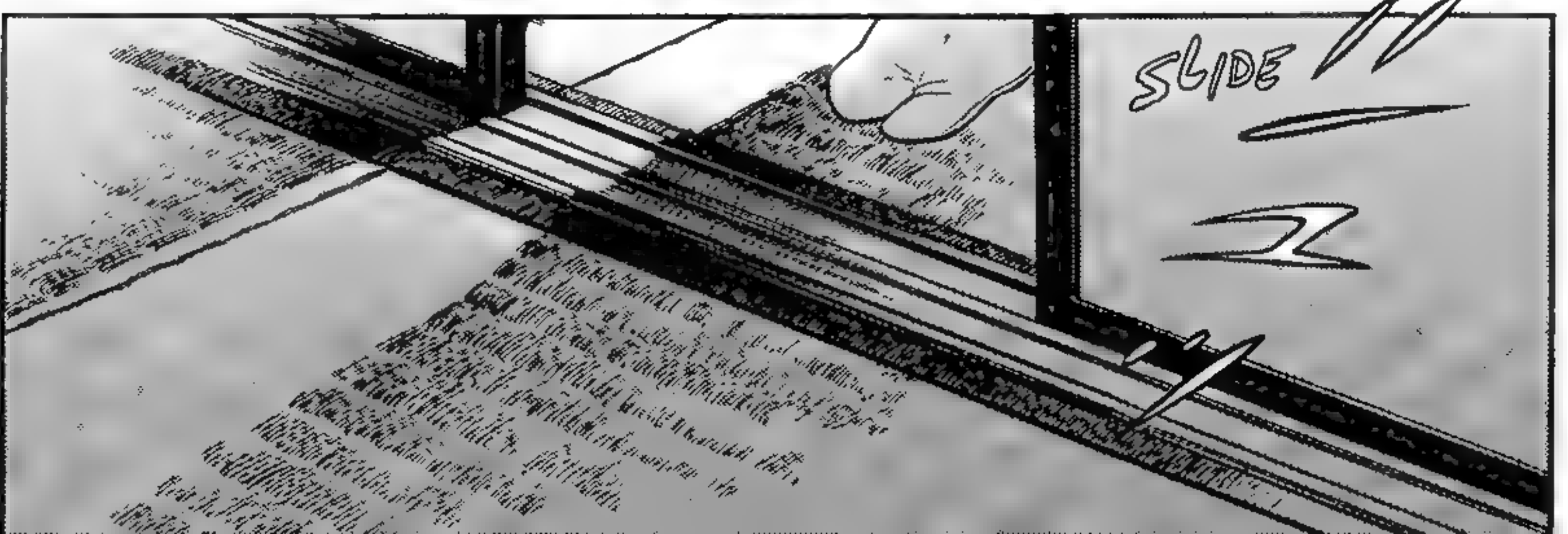








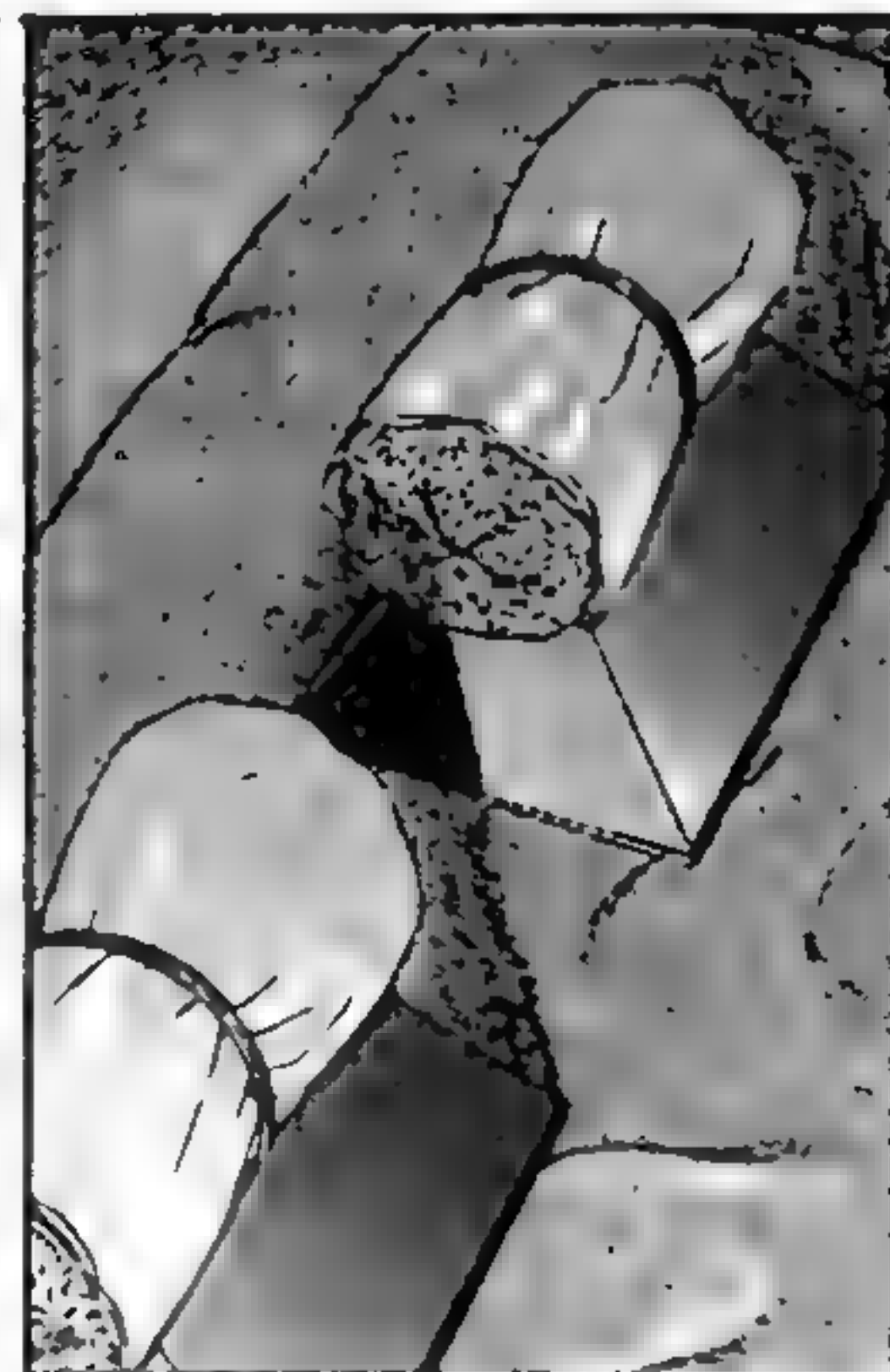




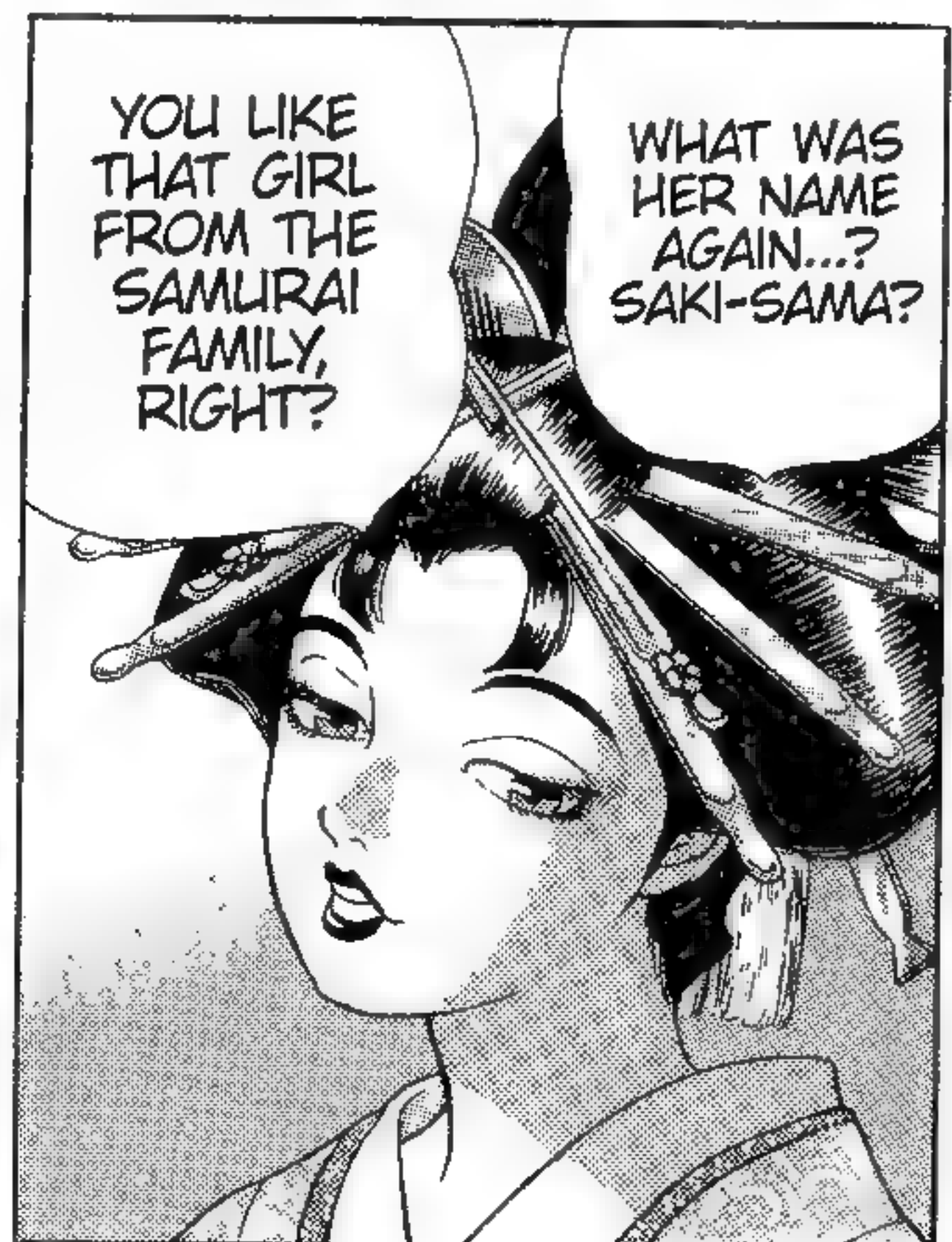
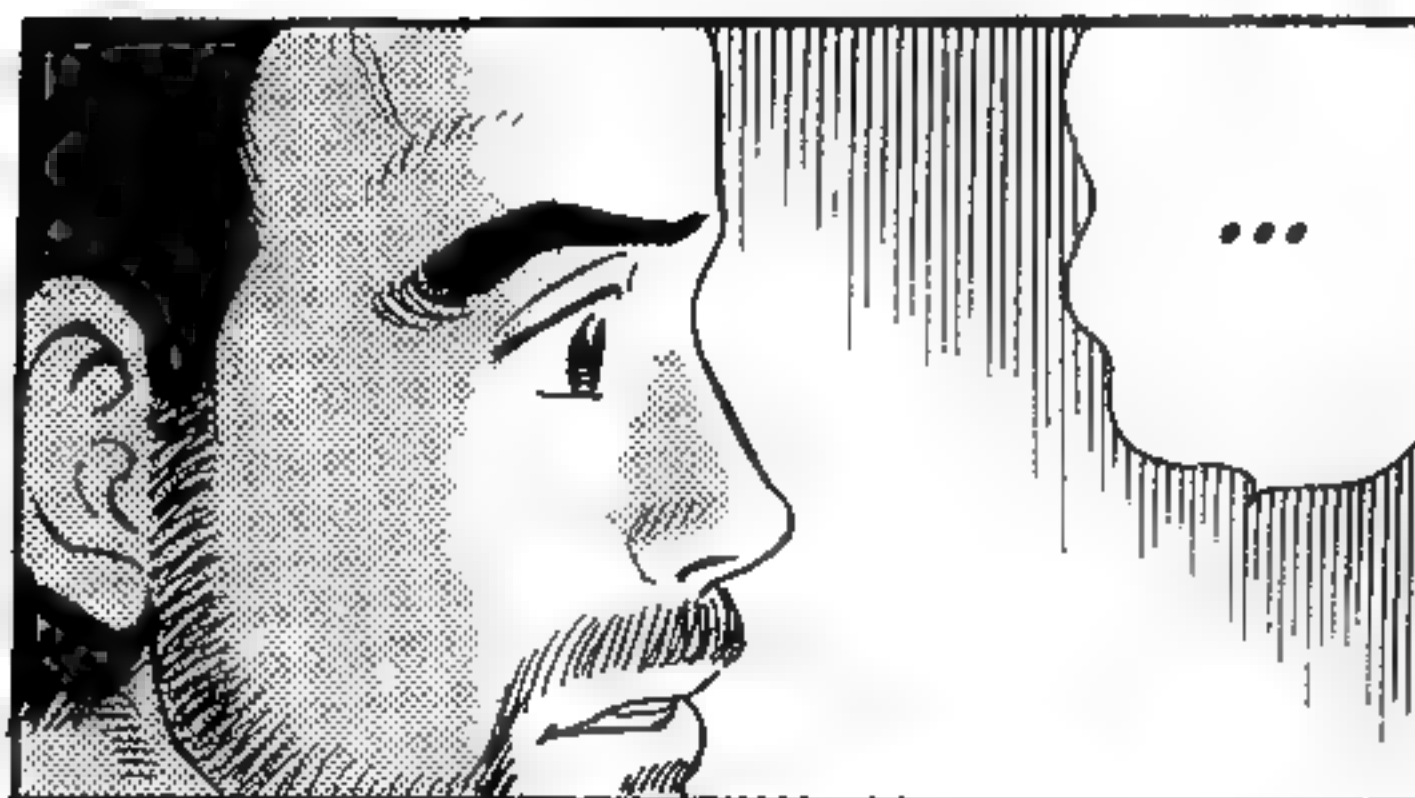
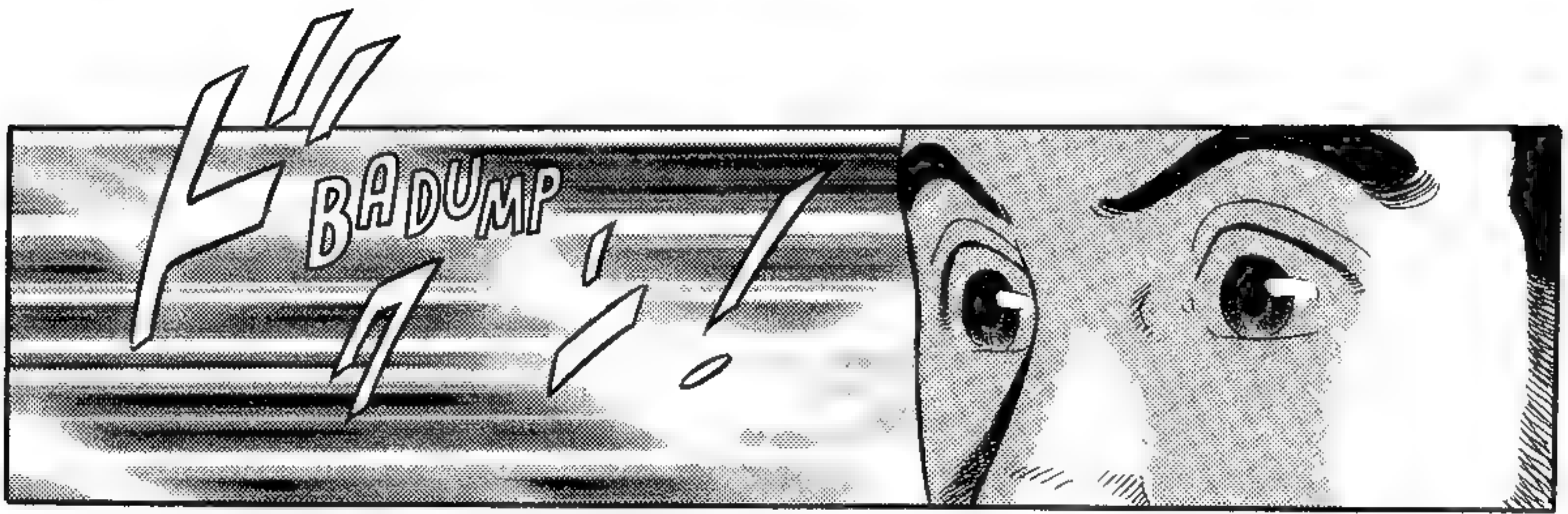




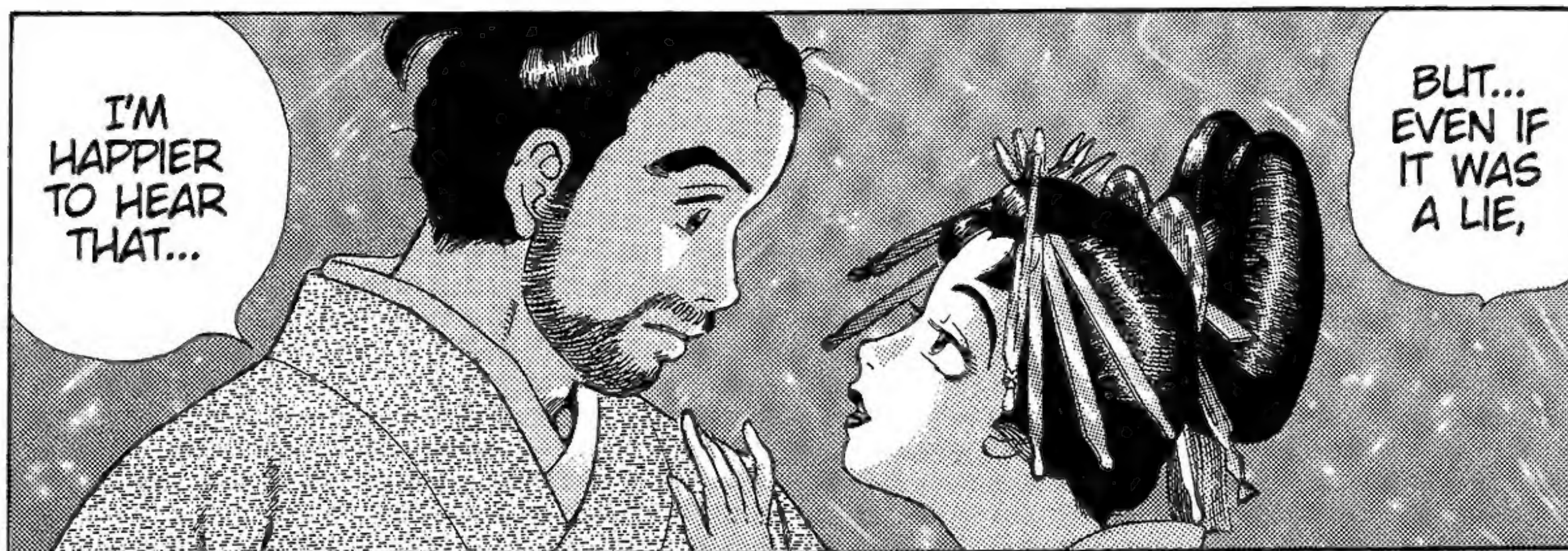




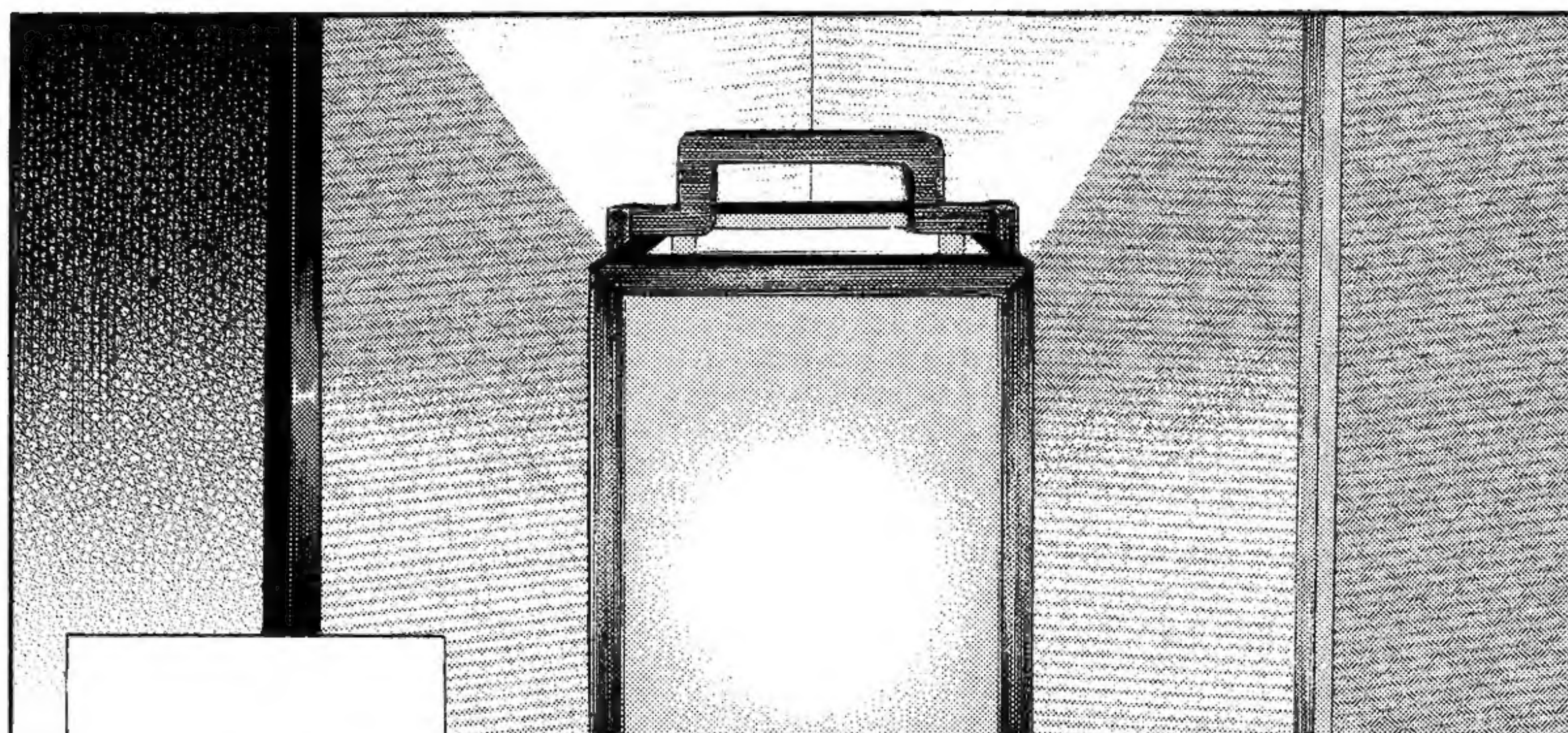




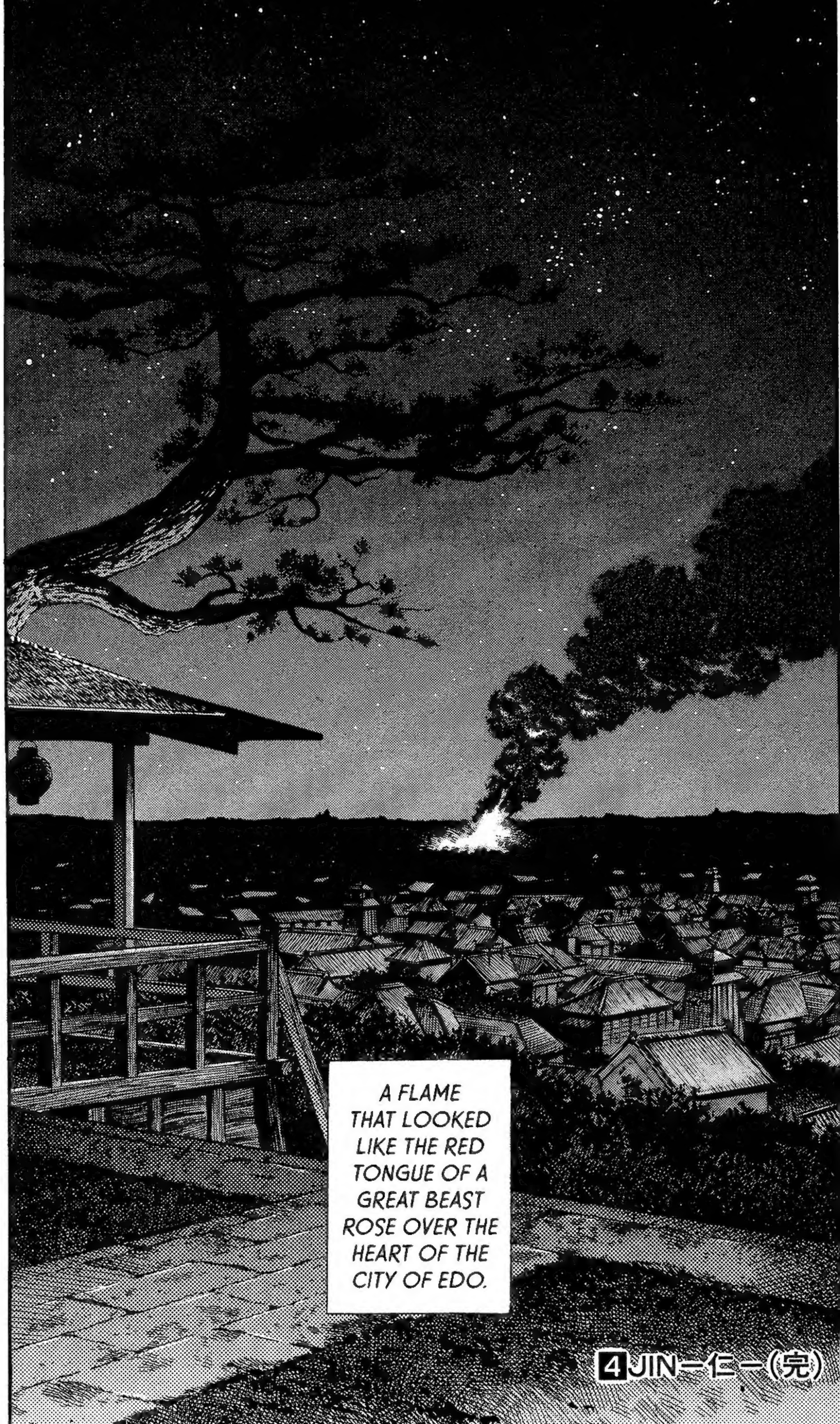












A FLAME  
THAT LOOKED  
LIKE THE RED  
TONGUE OF A  
GREAT BEAST  
ROSE OVER THE  
HEART OF THE  
CITY OF EDO.



